

Monks accused of helping Ulster escapes

By SIMON WINCHESTER

Two Cistercian monks appeared in court in County Tyrone yesterday accused of assisting two men to escape from the Crumlin Road prison, Belfast earlier this week.

At the same time, hundreds of troops and police were searching the monastery of Our Lady of Bethlehem in Portlengone, County Antrim, some 30 miles away, where the accused monks live and work.

At dusk search parties reported that nothing had been found, although there were unconfirmed suggestions that a radio set had been discovered in a chicken shed. Late in the evening the two monks were allowed to return to the care of their abbot, who stood bail of £800 for them.

Two businessmen, also charged with assisting the prisoners' escape, were released on bail until next Friday. At about the same time in Dublin, Joseph Cahill, a leading member of the Provisional IRA, said that the other seven men who escaped from the Crumlin Road on Tuesday morning would appear at a press conference in the city today. All nine men, including the two now recaptured, were on remand in the prison on arms and explosives charges.

The circumstances surrounding the re-arrest of the two

escapers, named as Christopher Keenan (21) and Daniel Mullan (17), who came from the Short Strand and the Ardoyne areas of Belfast respectively, are still unclear. It now seems that the two were picked up at an RUC-UDR road block near Omagh early on Thursday night. It is alleged that both were wearing clerical dress at the time and that a monk and lay brother were also in the car.

There were suggestions yesterday that two other prisoners were being smuggled across the border into the republic at about the same time as the car carrying Keenan and Mullan was stopped. It is believed that a full-scale smuggling operation was in progress that night. Certainly, Mr Cahill said yesterday that the remaining seven were now all in the "safety" of the Irish Republic and apparently had been since early yesterday.

It is understood that police in the Omagh area were ready and waiting for the car which carried Keenan and Mullan.

A man who had apparently taken them to Portlengone was arrested early on Thursday. It was reportedly on information received from him that an extensive cordon was mounted by troops and police that afternoon and by 7 pm Portlengone, a small town near Ballymena, about 34 miles from Belfast, was imperceptibly surrounded, and road blocks had been set up on dozens of roads leading towards the border.

There was an unconfirmed suggestion that police were aware that some of the escaped prisoners would be wearing clerical dress.

The cordon remained in position throughout the extremely cold night, thus suggesting that Keenan and Mullan had already left the area by the time it was set up.

At 8 am yesterday, a large force of heavily armed Marine Commandos, artillery men and Scots Guards, together with RUC men, entered the monastery. Forty-three monks, all members of the fairly strict, silent Cistercian order, were apparently fully cooperative as police searched "every single inch" of the monastery buildings, including the chapel.

Soldiers did not enter the main buildings, but confined their searches to the 300 acres of surrounding farmland where the monks make their living by rearing cattle and poultry.

By 4 pm the search was over and the Abbot, Don Aengus Dwyer, said that no damage had been done and that he had

Border shooting. Maudling meets Lord Hill, and press sees banned film, back page

no criticism of the operation. The soldiers were only doing their duty.

In court at Omagh, Eithen Thomas O'Neill and Brother Patrick Skeehan appeared with Keenan and Mullan and the two businessmen Eugene Scallan, of Omagh and Hugh Downey, of Portlengone. The Crumlin Road prisoners were charged with escaping from custody, the two monks with assisting them to escape, and the two businessmen with assisting a person unknown to escape custody.

Keenan appeared in court wearing a clerical collar. The escapers were remanded in custody until Friday; the others were given bail totalling £1,600 and were also remanded until Friday. All six are due to appear in court in Belfast.

Dom Dwyer gave an undertaking that the two monks would stay within his own jurisdiction, and their solicitor added that neither would be free to leave Ulster without breaking their solemn vows.



The scene at the Cistercian monastery at Portlengone as troops searched

Brake begins to grip on price increases

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

Substantial evidence that inflation is slowly being overtaken by a brake on price increases was published yesterday.

The index published by the Department of Employment, rose 0.9 points in October to 158.4, or 9.4 per cent above the level of a year earlier. This compared with 9.9 for September and 10.3 for August, showing that there has been a significant change of trend.

Price increases, of course, are still at a high level compared with a year earlier, but this is mainly because there were such big increases in the first half of the year. In the three months since the price initiative by the Federation of British Industries, prices have risen by only 0.8 per cent.

Such a small increase (equivalent to an annual rise of only 3.2 per cent) is partly due to seasonal falls in food prices and is unlikely to be maintained, but it does explain the confidence in Whitehall that inflation is being checked.

There is good reason for this confidence since the price of bread, the retail price of which is still reflecting much of the effects of the CBI initiative, which will act immediately on 5 per cent.

Wholesale prices, but will not generally affect retail prices for six months or more.

But the CBI initiative has coincided with a period of slow deceleration of prices in an important range of goods. Indeed, it was because profits were rising after the last round of price increases that the CBI was able to make such a public demonstration.

A large part of last month's price increases consisted of the usual winter increase in coal prices—which could equally be described as the withdrawal of the summer reduction, plus rent increases, especially in council houses.

There were also increases in such things as hairdressing, shoe repairs, car insurance, some Sunday newspapers, and rates in Scotland—all commodities either outside the scope of the CBI initiative or exempted.

Yesterday's figures coincided with an announcement by Allied Bakeries, part of Associated British Foods, that bread would go up by 1p on December 8. However, the company claims that the increase will be less than 5 per cent compared with the pre-decimalisation price of bread. The CBI scheme allows "unavoidable" increases providing that they are limited to 5 per cent.

For the first time the Department of Employment has published a separate index measuring price rises for all goods and services except the seasonal foods which are subject to unpredictable changes. This index showed a rise of only 3.4 per cent over the past six months.

With the effects of the CBI initiative and especially the freeze on nationalised industry prices yet to come, it will take substantial rises in raw material and food prices to change the trend—providing that industry keeps to its pledge.

The Government is obviously hoping that publicity about the trend of retail prices will have some effect on the current round of wage settlements, which are bound to set the pattern for the rest of the year.

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Sir Alec gains little ground

From PETER NIESEWAND

Salisbury, November 19

Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Rhodesian leader, Mr Ian Smith, today grappled with the crucial differences which still divide them. By this evening, there was no sign of progress. Another meeting has been scheduled for Saturday morning.

Officially, an information blackout surrounds the negotiations, but I understand that both sides are reluctant to make the first concession.

Since the British flew in on Monday, officials have been meeting daily to confirm the progress made in previous rounds of talks and to isolate the "final gap." This exercise has now been virtually completed, and the decks are cleared for the hard bargaining that can only be conducted at ministerial level.

I understand the main differences centre around the fourth British principle for a settlement, which calls for progress towards ending racial discrimination. The British would like to phase out the controversial Land Tenure Act which divides Rhodesia between the five million Africans and the quarter million ruling whites and which strictly controls the activities of one race in the area of another. But the Rhodesians are determined to retain the stone of white politics and it will not be lightly abandoned.

The "Rhodesian Financial Gazette," a weekly paper, suggested today that another area of disagreement could be the second British principle, which insists on guarantees against retrogressive amendments to the Constitution.

The paper said Britain had made it clear she would not insist on an external guarantee. It went on: "This might mean that the British will insist on the justiciability of the Bill of Rights."

It is known from sources inside the Rhodesian Front that this would be strongly resented. Some MPs have even suggested they would not be able to go along with a settlement if this is part of it.

Sir Alec is nearing the end of his interviews with Rhodesians of all races and in general the views he has heard have been hostile to Mr Smith and the 1969 "Republican" Constitution.

The exception came yesterday morning, when he met the chairman of Mr Smith's Rhodesian Front, Mr Desmond Frost, and a party delegation. A Rhodesian Front statement later said the delegation had

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Wilson: I am no emissary

From IAN AITKEN in Dublin

Mr Harold Wilson flatly denied last night that he had made his fact-finding visit to Northern Ireland and Dublin as an emissary of the Government. He had not discussed any such proposal with Mr Heath in advance, he said.

He was speaking at a press conference at Dublin Airport before returning to London. In a statement before the questioning began, he said: "I must dispel any impression that I am here as an emissary for Mr Heath."

He confirmed that he had asked that a member of the staff of the Cabinet Office should be attached to his team so that a detailed report of his talks could be delivered to Mr Heath. But he insisted that, although the Government had provided facilities for his visit, he had not discussed with Mr Heath any proposal that he should act as an emissary.

Mr Wilson also declared that it was quite wrong to assume that he had come with any preconceived views or ideas on the form which a solution of the Ulster problem should take. "The political history of both our countries is covered with the white bones of politicians who had preconceived ideas about how to solve this problem," he said.

Earlier, it had become clear that Mr Wilson was taken back by the discovery that there is not now to be a debate on Ulster in the Commons next week. The whole of his tour, and the impressive array of groups and individuals whom he had met, was based on the assumption that he would be able to reveal his conclusions in a major speech to the Commons on Tuesday or Wednesday. All the signs are that he

is dismayed, and even indignant. However, he was restrained in his comments at the press conference. He conceded that he would have liked to see a debate take place next week, and added merely that he believed there were difficulties for some of the other people scheduled to take part in it.

Although he did not name him, the reference was taken to be directed at Mr Heath's engagement next week.

Mr Wilson said: "I do not think this situation will wait, so I may have to find an opportunity to make a statement in other circumstances."

One opportunity, which will offer itself next week, is the Parliamentary Labour Party debate on Northern Ireland on Tuesday. It is possible that Mr Wilson will address that meeting at length relying on a subsequent press conference by the chairman of the party, Mr Douglas Houghton, to make the content of his speech known to the press and television.

However, there is every sign that he will have some sharp words to say to those of his colleagues in the Shadow Cabinet who were responsible for allowing the Government to side-step a debate next week. The cancellation of the debate means that Mr Wilson will be unable to address the Commons on Ulster for more than a fortnight. He is due to fly to New York next Saturday, and will not return to London until late the following Wednesday. That rules out a debate until the week after next.

When Mr Wilson arrived in London he changed his earlier plans and left for his country home in Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, instead of flying to Liverpool for a civic function in his constituency, Huxton.

Border shooting. Maudling meets Lord Hill, and press sees banned film, back page

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WINTER came suddenly to many parts of Britain yesterday. Many roads throughout Scotland and the north of England were affected by snow. This car ran into trouble near Kirby Moorside in North Yorkshire

When your innards strain and snap...

By our Correspondent

COMPUTERS at East Farnleigh railway station in Kent are being offered tea and coffee while they wait. Improving the image of British Rail with customers was the

idea of John "Spud" Murphy, a railwayman for 19 years.

His non-profit making scheme is undercutting official BR prices by as much as 31p on a cup of tea and 5p on coffee. He doesn't make a charge but invites customers to contribute pennies in the tea, coffee, sugar and milk.

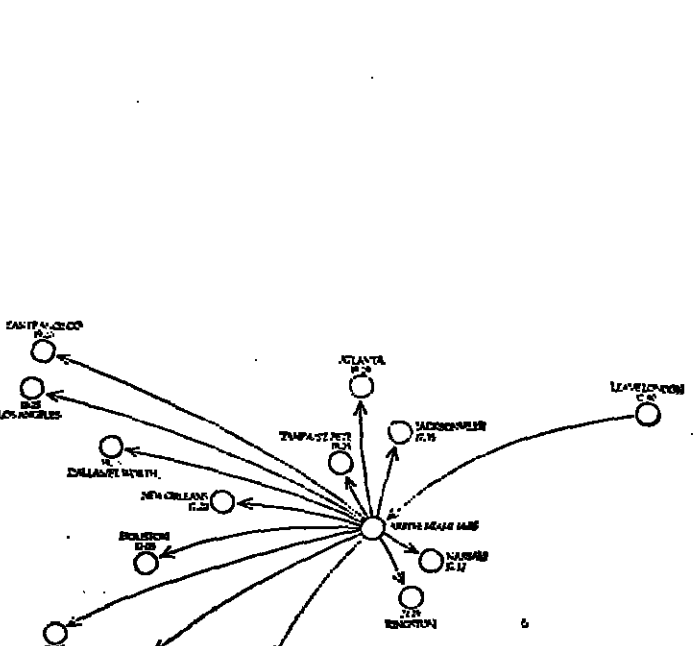
Spud, aged 47, who also looks after the booking office and the signals, said: "In my first week I have served up to 20 customers a day with tea or coffee. As the cold weather comes I think this will increase to up to 50 a day."

Spud announced his scheme in verse on the station blackboard. "When the fog around you wraps, and your innards strain and snap, Mistily you will see, a nice hot cup of tea. This can be reality, by bringing your cups down to me. With this endeavour in mind, try and be extra kind and put your pennies in the plate, for more tea and sugar's sake."

Spud has also organised a "swap bookstall" in the waiting room where commuters can exchange books and magazines for 1p in a BR orphanage box.

A BR spokesman said Mr Murphy was not in direct commercial competition. "We are delighted with the good spirit he is showing."

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Guardian takes design award

THE GUARDIAN has won the 1971 Newspaper Design Award in the class for daily and Sunday papers. It is the first time the paper has won the award, although it has been placed second on three previous occasions, including last year.

The judges say: "No one can dispute that among the daily morning papers, the Guardian possesses the essential quality of impact. It is adept at handling its simple typography. . . . It is an exceptionally well-organised and well-labelled paper, so that the reader can find his way about easily and speedily."

The judges add that their longest and deepest argument in their task was to decide the relative merits of The Guardian and The Sunday Times. After detailed consideration of the design efforts of these two distinguished newspapers, the Guardian won—by a majority.

The judges were Lord Redcliffe-Maud, Mr Raymond Hawkey, and Mr A. E. Smith, with Mr Allen Hunt as technical adviser. The awards are sponsored by the Linotype Group in cooperation with Printing World.

Winner of the class for evening papers was the Oxford Mail, and for weekly papers, the West Lancashire Visitor, Southport.

The Guardian's award, which coincides with its 150th anniversary year, comes as the latest of a series. Other recent awards include:

Alastair Betherington, journalist of the Year (1970 National Press Awards);

Women's Page of the Year (1970 Granada Television Award);

Peter Jenkins, Political Writer of the Year (Political Companion Poll);

Phillip Hope-Wallace, runner-up, Critic of the Year (National Press Awards);

The Guardian also won the Newspaper of the Year title in the 1969 Granada Television awards.

Heath to see Feather

MR HEATH has agreed to meet the TUC and its general secretary, Mr Vic Feather, to discuss unemployment. The meeting will be at 10 Downing Street on November 29.

The request for the meeting came from the TUC, whose finance and general purposes committee met yesterday and recommended Mr Feather to ask the Prime Minister to see him as general counsel.

Labour limbers up, page 6.

W. German visit

PRESIDENT Heinemann of West Germany will pay a state visit to Britain late next year. A Buckingham Palace statement said the Queen has invited the President to pay a state visit some time after mid-October 1972.

North Sea strike

A BIG oil strike has been made in the North Sea by a consortium which includes the Gas Council. First signs indicate a probable flow of 4,000 barrels of oil and two million cubic feet of gas a day.

Details, back page.

Daughter dies

LORRAINE WISBEY, aged 16, the daughter of the train robber Thomas Wisbey, died last night in the south London hospital where she had been detained after being injured in a car crash. Her father, who is serving a 30-year sentence in Parkhurst, had been allowed to visit her in hospital.

Author agrees

ROBERT GRAVES has written to support the parents who banned their twin sons, aged 15, from reading his book, "Goodbye to All That," for a school examination. In a letter to Mr William Merchant and his wife, the poet said in the boys' place he, too, would have refused to read out any embarrassing passages in front of a mixed class.

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"Some people believe that the German standard of news values denotes a deep-seated lack of interest in the fate of individuals... this seems to me to be an unjustified assumption."

Letter from Bonn

NORMAN CROSSLAND

THE SENSE of news values in this country is often very odd. When a section of a box-girder bridge crashed into the Rhine at Coblenz the other day, trapping workmen under a pile of twisted steel on the river bed, the main television news programme of the evening—five hours after the event—led with parliamentary business, the vote of the Tenants' Protection Bill and the discussion about the Betriebsverfassungsgesetz, the law concerning workers' rights at their places of employment. As the programme was nearing its end, it was announced that the Bundestag had been told of the bridge collapse, and had expressed its sympathy with the injured and the relatives of the dead. This item was accompanied by a still picture of the bridge.

Tenants and workers' rights are indeed worthy causes, but need not be considered less worthy if placed second or third on a news schedule when more urgent, startling and important news is about to be broadcast. Television was not alone in its assessment. The collapse of the bridge was given much the same treatment by many newspapers.

There are many examples of this attitude. West Germany has the worst road safety record in Western Europe but casualty statistics after an alarming crop of accidents during a bank holiday weekend hardly scrape on to the back page. And a mining disaster in Lower Saxony some years ago, in which some men were trapped for many days, was more prominently reported in the newspapers of Britain and other countries than by the West German press.

Some people believe that the German standard of news values denotes a deep-seated lack of interest in the fate of individuals, a callousness about human life. This seems to me an unjustified assumption, and there is plenty of evidence to discount it. But there is undoubtedly a feeling on the part of the press, television, and radio that the human story, rather than its prominent display, is a story for what is contemptuously called the "boulevard press."

Television news will bore its audience to tears with the dull contributions. The chairman of some association or other (the Carpet Cleaners' Federation, perhaps, or the Council to Prevent Unfair Competition) as he pompously

delivers a statement that would drive even his executive committee heading into the next Wirtshaus.

But then, to be fair, such men are not chosen for their news value. Their associations happen to be represented on the advisory boards of the television and radio stations and for democracy's sake they have to have a crack of the whip occasionally.

WHEN MEETING visiting statesmen or politicians, the Germans attach great importance to the surroundings. I doubt it's all part of the German love of Gemütlichkeit. Thus Mrs Gandhi is taken to a Schloss near Bonn, and from a grand staircase for the day to discuss with Willy Brandt the dispute with Pakistan, and a delegation from the Czechoslovak Government to meet with the German Chancellor in the town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber while it thrashes out its differences with Germany as to whether the Munich agreement of 1939 was in fact a betrayal or not.

In the summer, President Pompidou was put aboard a Rhine steamer for his talks with the chancellor about the floating mark, and during the

negotiations for the Moscow treaty the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Gromyko, was flown in by helicopter to a meeting with Foreign Minister Walter Scheel in the Taunus hills.

Some years ago the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Callaghan, was driven to an inn in the Ahr valley to discuss the problem of offsetting the foreign exchange costs of stationing British troops in Germany, but a gemütlich afternoon in the garden did not prevent him from threatening to take the boys home, if necessary, even if it meant putting them under canvas on Salisbury Plain. (Nothing came of that.) Meanwhile the search goes on for a German Chequer within easy reach of the capital.

PROGRESSIVE Catholics are angry about a decision of a majority of bishops to close down "Public" church weekly which for three years has been blowing hefty gusts of fresh air into West German catholicism. It had a circulation of 90,000, was highly respected and widely quoted, but was subsidised by the church to the tune of six million marks a year (about £750,000). This is a lot of money, but it is a small proportion of the enormous

annual revenue of church tax. In fact, six million marks amounts to about 5 per cent of the Catholic Church's total income from taxation.

Few people believe that the paper was sacrificed on financial grounds and a more likely reason is that the overwhelmingly conservative hierarchy wished to silence a dangerously liberal voice. The Liberals say that this voice was perfectly in harmony with the Vatican's policy, started under Pope John XXIII, of opening a dialogue between the Church and the world. But some of the liberals, clergy and laity, have been getting too progressive for establishment tastes, and the old guard bishops have been heavily applying the brakes. One of the most important German theologians, the Jesuit Professor Karl Rahner, described the closure of "Public" as a tragedy for German catholicism.

THE FEATHERSTONE Park Old Boys have been meeting again in Düsseldorf under the approving eye of their honorary chairman, Herbert Salzbach, a German / Briton who fought for the Kaiser in the First World War and King George VI in the second. Featherstone Park was a Ger-

man prisoner of war camp Northumberland and Salzbach now 77 (but still working more than 11 hours a day) the German Embassy (undoubtedly) was posted to the camp officer-in-charge. He set at teaching the inmates the crazy and radiating what still refers to as the Featherstone Park spirit.

Every year his now mid-aged boys meet in Düsseldorf and talk with nostalgia about the good old days at the Ror. Wall. This year's speaker, Patrick Gordon Walker who was felt, had shown the spirit in defying the whims of Europe, and audience included an old man who is doing extremely well as a farmer in Kent, another has a watchmaking business, Turnbridge Wells, a former inmate of Auschwitz, and businessman who saved 12 Jews from death.

heard that some 20 former German prisoners stayed on in Britain after the war. Those I met said one of the reasons they liked it was the pace of life in Britain rather less frenetic than in Fatherland, but one said he still a bit mixed up as "in Britain we're the B—Germans and here we're the B—British."

Caetano tackles guerrillas

Lisbon, November 19
The Portuguese Government today began consideration of steps to suppress subversion within the country in accordance with a directive from the National Assembly. The Assembly acted last night after receiving a message from the Prime Minister, Dr Caetano.

He asked Parliament to debate the presence of subversion "even in metropolitan Portugal where terrorist acts have been carried out or attempted." Under the Constitution, the Government needs parliamentary approval for any steps limiting the rights of individuals. As a result of the Assembly's decision, Dr Caetano is now empowered and instructed to take steps to suppress subversion.

Last week urban guerrillas claimed responsibility for bombing an important North Atlantic Treaty organisation communications centre as well as a Portuguese gun emplacement near Lisbon.

A message went by post to newspapers and news agencies in Lisbon by the urban guerrilla movement calling itself "Revolutionary Brigade No 4" claimed it had destroyed a battery of four guns, three miles across the Tagus River from Lisbon.

The communiqué also claimed the successful bombing a few days earlier by Revolutionary Brigade No 2 of the NATO communications centre at Ponte da Telha, south of Lisbon.

This attack was the second on NATO installations within a month. A bomb wrecked the interior of the new Iberian Atlantic headquarters outside Lisbon on October 27. — UPI.

Mr Luns in Greece

Mr Joseph Luns, the new Secretary-General of NATO, flew from Ankara to Athens yesterday for three days of talks with Greek leaders and Government officials. The defence of NATO's South-eastern flank in view of the Soviet naval build-up in the Mediterranean is expected to be one of the major subjects discussed, and is also expected to be on the agenda.

Speedy report for New Delhi

New Delhi, November 19
India's new High Commissioner to Pakistan, Mr Jai Prakash Narayan, flew back to New Delhi today for consultations within 24 hours of presenting his credentials to President Yahya Khan.

He is certain to report on the present mood in Pakistan towards the tension with India over the East Pakistan crisis and the series of border incidents, but no official reason has been given for his trip so soon after assuming his appointment.

Five incidents of firing across the border have been reported within the past 48 hours—in Kashmir, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Assam. The incidents appeared to be less serious than others that have occurred recently, and in no way comparable with fighting on the East Pakistan border at the end of last month, full details of which are only now being disclosed.

A Reuters correspondent reported today from Kamalpur, 75 miles north of Agartala, that high-ranking Indian border officials put casualties in an eight-day battle there nearly three weeks ago at 75 Indian soldiers and at least 450 Pakistani troops killed.

The battle followed an Indian foray across the border to silence guns, a mile inside East Pakistan, that had been shelling Indian territory for 11 days. The Defence Ministry announced at the time that Indian forces had "taken some action" to stop the shelling, but refused to say whether they had crossed the border. Kamalpur is now an abandoned town, surrounded by lush green rice fields, and marked by craters and other signs of shellfire.

The massive problem of caring for East Pakistani refugees continues to preoccupy the Indian Parliament. Mr R. K. Hazare, Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation, told Parliament today that the number of refugees now totalled 9,700,000 and would have cost the country \$250 million (about £230 million) by the end of next month. Foreign aid for the refugees had so far amounted to about \$30 million.

Speaking of the refugee crisis in a radio broadcast last night, President V. V. Giri said India was reaching the end of its patience and resources. He accused Pakistan of adopting a war posture and warned, "We are fully prepared to meet any threat to our integrity."

The only sign of any thaw in the chilly Indo-Pakistan relations has come with the lifting of restrictions on the movement of the staff of diplomatic missions, which were halted last April after the East Pakistan conflict and the defection to the Bangla Desh movement of many of the staff of Pakistan's mission in Calcutta. Diplomats and other staff of each country's mission began returning home today as the visa restrictions were lifted.

In Paris, Pakistan's State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Sultan M. Khan, arrived today to seek support for his country in its conflict with India, following the same route that Mrs Gandhi travelled last week. In contrast to the lavish official welcome that France gave her—which included meetings and dinners with President Pompidou and the Prime Minister—Sultan Khan did not appear to have made any contacts with French officials.

He said he did not know whether or not he would be meeting his French counterpart, M. Schumann, during his short stay. Sultan Khan said he had already visited Washington, and Ottawa on his tour, and would stop in Bonn on his way home to Pakistan.

Speaking to journalists at the Pakistan Embassy, he said that his Government had deployed a ring of eight divisions around East Pakistan, and nine or ten divisions along the West Pakistan border with India. — Reuters and UPI.

'Z' judge released

The Greek military authorities yesterday ordered the release on health grounds of the former judge, Christos Zorzi, who has been detained without trial for 11 months.

Mr Sartzelakis (41), led the investigation into the assassination of the former left-wing deputy, Grigoris Lambrakis, in Salonika in 1963. The film "Z" was based on the inquiry.

Mr Sartzelakis was arrested in Salonika last December in connection with a series of bomb explosions in Athens.



Waiting for Eyskens

From RICHARD NORTON-TAYLOR

Brussels, November 19
The new Belgian Government is likely to be formed within the coming week, after local elections in the Brussels area on Sunday. Although many observers believe that the outgoing Premier, M. Eyskens, has already brought a team together—the Social Christians and the Socialists—do not want to announce anything until the results of Sunday's elections are known.

The local elections will be of interest mainly because of the spectacular gains made by the French-speaking federalist parties in the general elections a fortnight ago. There is a real possibility they will be able to form a majority in the new Council of the Brussels Conurbation. This would put pressure on the five "peripheral" communes, which, the Flemish insist, must be kept outside the jurisdiction of the capital.

Reforms
The chief task of the new Government will be to push through the remaining elements of the constitutional reform package that gives a limited amount of autonomy to the Flemish and Walloon language communities, leaving Brussels itself as an officially bilingual enclave.

It is not yet clear whether or not M. Eyskens will continue as Prime Minister, although he is almost certain to be a member of the cabinet. The Social Christians and the Socialists will again form a coalition Government.

Picasso ban protest

From our Correspondent

Madrid, November 19
HUNDREDS of Spaniards today demonstrated in the Ministry of Information, protesting against the Spanish Government's ban on a planned homage to Pablo Picasso at the University of Madrid. It was disclosed here today that the protest, signed by 369 lawyers, artists, journalists, and university professors, also demanded the immediate release of Señor Jose Maria Moreno Galvan, an author and art critic, who is being held in prison because he defied the ban.

The letter said that the ban and the arrest were "an insult to freedom of expression and a violation of basic human rights."

Señor Moreno was due to address about 1,000 students in a lecture hall at Madrid's University City on October 25, to commemorate Picasso's nineteenth birthday. This lecture was this week assembling a group of 6,000 of the faithful at the University of Madrid. In the recent past there have been a number of defections in the UDR, those of M. Christian Fouchet, a former Minister whose Gaullist allegiance dates from June 18, 1960, of M. Jacques Vendroux, brother-in-law of the General, of M. Jean-Marcel Jeanneney, architect of the plan for regionalisation on which De Gaulle staked his political future and lost, and of M. David Bousset, a Gaullist of the left. On the horizon, at latest in the

Gaullists' image a thorny question for congress

From NESTA ROBERTS: Paris, November 19

Gaullism is a faith not a doctrine: the UDR (Union of Democrats for the Fifth Republic), which constitutes the majority in the French National Assembly, is a movement not a party. Can a faith endure if the prophet having departed, it does not establish a movement capable of equal electoral terms with the firm structure, the clear dogma and the personalised leadership of the traditional political party?

Problem

That is the problem which hangs over the national congress of the UDR, the first since the death of General de Gaulle, which is this week assembling some 6,000 of the faithful at Strasbourg. In the recent past there have been a number of defections in the UDR, those of M. Christian Fouchet, a former Minister whose Gaullist allegiance dates from June 18, 1960, of M. Jacques Vendroux, brother-in-law of the General, of M. Jean-Marcel Jeanneney, architect of the plan for regionalisation on which De Gaulle staked his political future and lost, and of M. David Bousset, a Gaullist of the left. On the horizon, at latest in the

spring of 1973 and more probably in the autumn or even the spring of next year, are the general elections.

When, less than a week ago, two leading Gaullists, M. Jacques Chirac, Minister responsible for relations with Parliament, and M. Alain Chalon, Minister for Equipment, voiced publicly the diametrically opposite views on the future of the UDR which now exist within the movement, the stage seemed set for political drama rather than traditional piety at Strasbourg.

M. Chirac told parliamentary journalists that the Prime Minister was ex-officio the leader of the UDR and that to seek an elected president would be contrary both to Gaullist doctrine and to the statutes of the movement. Twenty-four hours later M. Chalon, addressing the same audience, said that at the Strasbourg conference he intended to move that the UDR should give itself an elected president, a political programme, instead of regarding the Prime Minister as its leader and being avowed to nothing much more rigid than support of the President of the Republic and the Government in their efforts for the good of the country.

M. Chalon added that, at the event, the present Prime Minister, M. Chaban-Debras was evidently most upset that this did not invalidate the principle. A once M. Chaban-Debras let it be known that he had no wish to be elected president of the UDR, still less to see it become a traditional party.

Another 24 hours and the matter had been settled by the President of the Republic. A such, M. Pompidou is above the party but this does not prevent his being the spiritual head of the UDR.

He stressed to the political bureau of the Gaullist group that the UDR must remain a movement, and that to allow it to become a party like any other would mean the end of a return to the old ways of the Fourth Republic, with its warring factions. The philosophy behind this is that the UDR claims to draw its support from all sections of society, rather than being identified with any particular group.

Unchanged

Accordingly M. Chalon has discovered Ministerial duties which prevent his attending the Strasbourg conference and the Prime Minister's closing speech on Sunday is likely to find the UDR recharged with loyalty, enthusiasm and brotherly love but unchanged in character. It will continue to present to observers from other countries a Gaullist spectacle of a majority movement which has a right wing—the Independent Republicans—that keeps its own identity, and four left-wing groups, three of which recently united while the fourth had anything to do with them; and which is supported by one section of the centre and opposed by another section. Although not a party, it will continue to enjoy the benefits of an electoral organisation, the envy of the envied of many British political parties.

It will remain inspired by the memory of General de Gaulle but—and this may prove the most significant fact of the present conference—on the platform at Strasbourg this weekend the portrait of M. Pompidou is equal to that of the General in being, as hitherto, discreetly lesser and definitely upstaged.

Plea made in DDT row

Rome, November 19
A senior official of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) made a plea today for rational moderation in the use of pesticides, warning that who support and oppose the use of DDT.

The plea came from Dr Edouard Saouma, director of the land and water division, in a report to a commission of the FAO conference now meeting in Rome at the FAO headquarters.

"Between certain 'hysterical and myopic environmentalists'... and those who, in the name of absolute imperatives of development, would deny the very existence of the risks we take in speeding up food production, there is a place for useful work by FAO far from any polemic," Dr Saouma said. He was referring to the speech which opened the conference by Dr Borlaug, the American 1970 Nobel peace prizewinner. Dr Borlaug attacked those "hysterical environmentalists" who would ban completely DDT and other pesticides.

Dr Borlaug was answered a few days later by Dr Sicco Mansholt, of the European Economic Community, who declared that the world would not tolerate the use of persistent pesticides at a rate which would put permanently in jeopardy land, sea, and air one kilo of DDT per person within a decade.

Dr Saouma said today: "In putting the accent on the more fundamental problems of conservation of natural resources and the maintenance of their capacity of production, in insisting on the necessity of pursuing research and technical training, and in the development of systems of continuing surveillance, our organisation will be able to contribute usefully to resolve questions that are of interest both to the environment and to development."

After discussing the report, the commission recommended that FAO should take a leading rôle in the protection of the environment and in conserving natural resources at international level and so assist in protecting the vital interests of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

In Moscow Tass reported that micro-organisms in soil can break down DDT and render it harmless. Laboratory experiments had shown soil organisms could almost completely eradicate DDT within a month, given the right conditions. — Reuters.

TELEVISION

YOU COULD try talking to your wife. Otherwise, the heavy brigade is out: three hours of "Royal Variety Performance" (ITV, 7.55, less News at 10) countered by even more of the birth-of-the-Israeli-ation epic "Exodus" (BBC-1, 7.25-10.45). Elsewhere, Sir Hugh Green does "One Man's Week" (BBC-2, 11.0).

BBC-1

- 9.0 a.m. Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan.
- 9.30 Wie biotte?
- 10.0-10.25 Zarabanda.
- 11.0 Seeing and Believing: What is Man?
- 11.35 Fact and Fiction.
- 12 noon Engineer's World.
- 12.25-12.50 p.m. Conflict at Work.
- 1.25 Farming.
- 1.50 The Gap.
- 2.15 Made in Britain: Bits and Pieces.
- 2.24 News.
- 2.25 Here's Lucy.
- 2.50 Film: "Sun Valley Serenade," with Glen Miller, Sonja Henie, John Payne.
- 4.15 Laurel and Hardy.
- 4.35 Walt Disney: Wonderful World of Colour.
- 5.30 Tom Brown's Schooldays: part 2.
- 6.5 News.
- 6.15 Chance to Meet Huw Wheldon, Managing Director, BBC Television.
- 6.55 Songs of Praise: Portsmouth Central.
- 7.25 Film: "Exodus," with Paul Newman, Eva Marie Saint, Ralph Richardson, Peter Lawford, Lee J. Cobb.
- 10.45 News.
- 10.55 Parkinson: with Ralph Richardson, Joanne Woodward.
- 11.40 Weather.

WALES (As BBC-1 except)—
2.25 p.m. Thomas Owen. 3.15 Rugby Union: Aberystwyth Pontypridd. 4.0 Camu' Bobol. 4.25 Tom and Jerry. 4.35-5.20 Star Trek. 5.55-7.25 Doctor Who. 8.00 Decadent. 11.45 Weather. Close.

ENGLISH REGIONS.—11.42 p.m. Regional Weather. Close.

BBC-2

7.0 p.m. News.
7.25 World About Us: Brazil's Great North Road—Manaos to Georgetown.
8.25 Music on 2: Louis Kentner, Jeremy Manuhin play Mozart, Bartok.
9.10 Wives and Daughters.
9.15 Comedy Tonight: Talk of the Town, introduced by Roy Hudd.
10.45 Television Doctor: Heart Attack.
11.0 One Man's Week: Sir Hugh Green.
11.30 News.
11.35 Close.

ITV

LONDON WEEKEND
10.35 a.m. Jobs in the House and Garden.
11.0 Celebrated Mass: St Cuthbert's, Withington, Manchester.
12.5 p.m. Collecting on a Shoestring.
1.30 Rules of the Game: Basketball, Netball.

12.55 Out of Town.
1.15 Captain Scarlet.
1.45 University Challenge.
2.15 Big Match.
3.15 Film: "House of the Seven Hawks," with Robert Taylor.
4.45 Golden Shot.
5.35 Flaxton Boys.
6.5 News.
6.15 Freedom Roadshow.
7.0 Stars on Sunday.
7.25 On the Buses.
7.55 Royal Variety Performance (Part 1).
10.15 News.
10.30 Royal Variety Performance (Part 2).
11.0 Robert Kee interviews Danny Kaye.
11.30 On Reflection: Fenton Bresler on Sir Edward Marshall.
11.55 From the Grass Roots.

ANGLIA.—11.0 a.m. Celebrated Mass. 12.5 p.m. Collecting on a Shoestring. 12.30 Rules of the Game. 1.25 Jobs in the House and Garden. 1.35 Tomorrow's Horoscope. 1.45 People to People: Bulgaria. 2.15 Star Trek. 2.25 On the Buses. 2.55 Flaxton Boys. 3.15 Golden Shot. 3.25 Flaxton Boys. 3.35 Flaxton Boys. 3.45 Flaxton Boys. 3.55 Flaxton Boys. 4.00 Golden Shot. 4.15 Flaxton Boys. 4.25 Flaxton Boys. 4.35 Flaxton Boys. 4.45 Flaxton Boys. 4.55 Flaxton Boys. 5.00 Golden Shot. 5.15 Flaxton Boys. 5.25 Flaxton Boys. 5.35 Flaxton Boys. 5.45 Flaxton Boys. 5.55 Flaxton Boys. 6.00 Golden Shot. 6.15 Flaxton Boys. 6.25 Flaxton Boys. 6.35 Flaxton Boys. 6.45 Flaxton Boys. 6.55 Flaxton Boys. 7.00 Golden Shot. 7.15 Flaxton Boys. 7.25 Flaxton Boys. 7.35 Flaxton Boys. 7.45 Flaxton Boys. 7.55 Flaxton Boys. 8.00 Golden Shot. 8.15 Flaxton Boys. 8.25 Flaxton Boys. 8.35 Flaxton Boys. 8.45 Flaxton Boys. 8.55 Flaxton Boys. 9.00 Golden Shot. 9.15 Flaxton Boys. 9.25 Flaxton Boys. 9.35 Flaxton Boys. 9.45 Flaxton Boys. 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Europe or isolation for islanders

From MALCOLM STUART in Jersey

CHANNEL ISLANDERS learned from Mr Geoffrey Rippon yesterday the alternative to accepting the Common Market terms he had negotiated for them. Any island which refused the terms would "sever the links" with the United Kingdom and become totally independent. Mr Rippon made no mention of this in speeches to the island assemblies in Guernsey and Jersey, but at a press conference after the first speech he admitted that this would be the situation. The same choice is open to the Isle of Man.

Most of the 120,000 Channel Islanders had assumed that a decision to keep clear of the Common Market would merely result in paying tariffs to export their produce to Britain. They anticipated that they would still be able to retain the other links and protections. In Jersey it was pointed out to Mr Rippon that a long line of charters and treaties exists between the island and the UK. Mr Rippon replied: "We have negotiated with the EEC for the maintenance of these charters. Rights of the arrangements are not satisfactory to Jersey, but they would have to choose to 'undermine those rights'."

The island assemblies have only four weeks in which to decide. Mr Rippon told the deputies that he wanted to sign the accession treaty by the end of the year and this meant that there had to be a final agreement about the Community offer concerning the islands by mid-December. The islanders now feel that they have little choice but to

accept the Common Market terms, which they say are better than they had hoped. There is, however, resentment that they have so little time to consider the question of taking independence.

"I don't feel like a foreigner," said Mr Lionel Phillips, one of the 24 members of the Chief Pleas of Sark, who travelled by boat to Guernsey to hear Mr Rippon. "I don't think we could afford the plane fare to send our representative to the United Nations and if we had to raise our own army we might have to introduce income tax. So it looks as if we are going to accept. But I wish we had more than a month. Sark people like to take their time before they decide anything even though there are only 540 of us. It's a big decision to take whether to become the smallest country in the world."

In Jersey there was some anger. "We consider that our treaties with Britain, which date back to 1592, legally guarantee our present relationship to have free access to the United Kingdom markets," said Mr Ted Vibert of the Jersey anti-Market lobby, The Concerned Group of Residents. "We consider that in law if we reject the Market terms then our existing relationship should merely continue. There has been no mention until today that Westminster would do a UDI on us."

Generally, the terms obtained by Mr

Rippon impressed island representatives. The islands only obligation to the EEC would be to apply tariffs on exports from third countries and there is a possibility that this money would be sent to Brussels. It is likely that some clauses of the common agricultural policy would apply, but Mr Rippon admitted that the details had to be clarified.

Value added tax will not apply to the islands in any form. Exports from the EEC will be able to claim back a full rebate of the tax on goods sent to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Otherwise, there will be free trade in both directions. The fiscal autonomy has been guaranteed, and some islanders believe that this will encourage even more offshore investments, already worth £500 millions a year in Jersey alone.

Islanders will have the unrestricted right to work in Britain but will be able to apply their own immigration controls and housing restrictions equally to British and other EEC nationals.

"I cannot conceal from you my belief that we could not have secured better terms," Mr Rippon told the deputies in Guernsey. Some people have expressed the view that they are too good to be true and there might be a snag somewhere. But I haven't seen one."

Mr Rippon said that during the negotiations he had to withhold information from the islanders so as not to show his hand to the EEC. There was no question of being able to renegotiate any of the points.

Senior members of all the assemblies believe their islands will accept the terms, but the sudden thought of a legal independence is likely to lead to some serious discussion. Already there is talk of a commercial television station to serve Northern France and a medium wave commercial radio station for Britain. Each of the Channel Islands could become free ports for all of Europe and for the Manx there would be the possible opportunity for a commercial television station which would cover industrial Lancashire and much of Ireland. "I think we should try it for five years," said Mr Vibert. "I think Britain owes us enough to take us back if it doesn't work. We could, of course, apply to join the Commonwealth so that our status seekers could still receive their knighthoods."

The only idea that seems completely out of the question is a federation of the Channel Islands. "Even if we voted for independence, which I don't believe we shall, I can't see any link up between us," said Mr Edward Collas, president of Guernsey's advisory and finance committee. "We are all very different people," he said as Sark's 24 representatives went back, some of them chatting in their private brand of Norman French.

NUS steps up 'war' against finance plan

By JOHN EZARD

The National Union of Students turned its skirmishing with the Government into furious verbal warfare yesterday. The 500,000-strong union opened its annual conference at Margate last night without getting the answer it had demanded to its "20 questions" on the plan to hand over financial control of 700 student unions to college authorities.

Its leadership accused the Government of trying to "provoke the conference into a display of 'frenzied' and publicly damaging rage. In the angriest speech from an NUS leader since the war, Mr Jack Straw, outgoing president, told delegates that the Education Secretary, Mrs Thatcher, must expect the whirlwind of student opposition if she persisted in a "cynical" plan which threatened the union's very existence.

"The NUS is engaged in a battle that it can and must win," Mr Straw said. "No one will

ever know for certain why Mrs Thatcher is dancing Salome-like before the Cabinet and asking for the head of Digby Jakes (NUS president-elect) on a platter. But I believe one factor is her plain, stubborn ignorance."

The Government consultative document would effectively place college union affiliation to the NUS within the discretion of the academic authorities. The union believes that this proposal aims deliberately at downgrading its status as a body which at present negotiates for students on issues such as grants and discipline with the Government and with college heads.

Its deep suspicion was fanned yesterday by a preconference letter from Mr van Straubenzee, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Higher Education.

Mr van Straubenzee wrote that he could not, as the NUS had asked, elaborate on points in the document before conference because he did not wish to prejudice future consultations and negotiations.

He added: "I entirely appreciate that a number of questions arise which need to be discussed fully and carefully with students (including I hope the NUS), as with other organisations."

This form of words suggested to NUS officers, as they prepared to leave London for Margate, that the downgrading had already begun.

Mr Straw said in a statement that it was public knowledge that the Department of Education and Science had promised to answer its queries so that these could be discussed at conference. "Less than eight hours before conference, the Government has sent the NUS a provocative and cursory letter," Mr Straw said.

"One might almost suppose the letter was designed to provoke an already angry conference into frenzied rage—thereby discrediting the NUS. We know we have a good case. We know the Government has not. We will not be provoked."

In his speech, Mr Straw said: "Mrs Thatcher's new deal will permanently embitter this generation of students."

The NUS belief that the Government had promised a detailed reply appeared to be based on a conversation between a journalist and a Department of Education official. Last night the official said he stated only that some answer would be given before conference. The official believed the journalist had understood his words in the correct sense.

Whip promoted

Lord Denham, aged 44, an assistant Whip in the Lords, has taken over the duties of assistant Government Chief Whip from Lord Goschen, aged 65, who retired yesterday for health reasons.

Rolls-Royce talks fail

Talks to break the deadlock in the three-week unofficial strike by Rolls-Royce manual workers in Bristol have failed. Management, shop stewards, and union officials could discover no formula for ending the dispute, over a cost of living claim.

A statement by the Rolls-Royce Bristol Engine Division yesterday said that there had been a frank exchange of views, and confirmed its willingness to talk again as soon as the 6,000 strikers resumed normal work. The men, most of whom work on Concorde and Harrier engines, are not due to meet until Tuesday.

Officials of the Association of Scientific, Technical, and Engineering Staffs at Bristol denied last night an allegation that their members were "blacklegging" in the strike.

A Transport and General Workers' Union delegate claimed at a meeting of the Bristol Trades Council that ASTMS members were supporting the operation of boilers and undertaking electrical work.

The company fears damage to computer-controlled equipment unless a minimum heat is kept up in the workshops. Mr Geoffrey Mainwaring, divisional officer of ASTMS, said: "Our members are being exceedingly careful that only absolutely necessary safety work is being done."

Full production was resumed yesterday at the two Triumph factories in Liverpool after Thursday's 24-hour stoppage over the dismissal of three men.

A strike by 260 press operators at British Leyland's car body factory in Oxford was called off yesterday. The men decided to accept a union recommendation, and return on Monday.

Hopes were rising in Birmingham yesterday for an early settlement of a busmen's pay dispute, which has led to a series of lightning 24-hour strikes throughout the Midlands on a claim for a rise of £2.50 a week, back-dated to October 1. A settlement is expected in a few days.

Sewell remand

Five London men, including Frederick Joseph Sewell, were further remanded in custody until Friday at Blackpool yesterday charged with the murder of Superintendent Gerald Richardson on August 28. They also face four charges of attempting to murder police officers, robbery, and firearms offences.

The other four were Charles Henry Haynes (43), of Argyle Street, King's Cross; George Bond (43), of Aristotle Road, Clapham; John Patrick Spry (37), of Overfield Road, Stratford Hill; and Thomas Farrell Flannigan (43), of Graham Road, Hackney. Chief Inspector Eric Cheetham said committal proceedings had been fixed to start on November 29.

Yard chief tells of Angry Brigade interview

A Scotland Yard detective denied yesterday that he told one of the two accused in the Angry Brigade trial that his cell-mates had put him "right in it."

Detective Chief Superintendent Roy Habershon was answering a question from Mr Colin Duncan, QC, defending Jack Prescott at the Central Criminal Court. Mr Duncan suggested that Mr Habershon took statements from the two cell-mates,

who gave evidence yesterday as Mr A and Mr B, and then told Prescott: "They have put you right in it. You will do us fine." Mr Habershon replied: "No, sir."

Prescott (26), a decorator of Roehampton Lane, Roehampton, and Ian Purdie (24), him technician of Tynham Road, Wandsworth, have both denied conspiring with others to cause explosions. Prescott alone, has pleaded not guilty to causing an explosion at the Department of Employment in St. James's Square, London, and at the home of Mr Carr, the Employment Secretary, at Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Mr Habershon told the jury that Purdie, who was arrested on March 6, said in reply to his first question: "You are going to fit me up because I am an anarchist, the same as you have done to Jack Prescott." He asked to see a solicitor, but Mr Habershon told him he had discretion in the matter, and did not propose to allow it.

Purdie said: "In that case, I will do without, but you will get nothing out of me."

Mr Habershon referred to the series of explosions, which, he said, appeared to have an anarchistic motivation, and

Purdie told him: "You will be lucky if there aren't some more."

Reference was made to letters signed "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" after the bombing of the home of the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir John Wadlow. Purdie was alleged to have said: "I'll bet that made the pigs run round in circles."

Asked about the explosions at Mr Carr's home, he said: "If you think I did it, why don't you charge me?"

Mr Duncan suggested that a number of the statements Mr Habershon had given were in the wrong form, and that some things that were said had not been referred to at all.

Mr Habershon said: "I will not say it is a verbatim note, but I deal with all I thought to be relevant."

He saw Prescott for the first time on February 11 and had no clear recollection of his asking to see a solicitor. He denied that Prescott had said: "I have been nabbed off the street and held for about six hours. I want to make a phone call and I want to contact a lawyer."

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

Screw on EEC rebels

By KEITH HARPER

Transport House is preparing to crack the whip on Labour MPs who do not support the party's policy on the Common Market.

After next week's meeting of the national executive committee, Sir Harry Nicholas, general secretary, will almost certainly be empowered to write to constituency parties whose members do not support Labour in its fight to prevent the enabling Common Market legislation from getting through Parliament.

A motion by Mr Alec Kitson, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, published this week, shows that the running sore within the party is far from healed. The Left wing might have been tempted to let matters rest for the time being, but when Mr Jenkins was so closely challenged by Mr Foot in the second ballot for the deputy leadership, it decided to maintain the pressure.

Mr Kitson's motion asks the NEC to instruct Sir Harry to inform local parties of any member who "does not act in conformity with agreed policy."

Mr Kitson also wants a special meeting between the NEC and the Parliamentary Labour Party at which unity would be put above everything else.

A letter from Sir Harry to a local party would not by itself compel it to reprimand an MP. What a local party does is its own affair. Mr Douglas Houghton's constituency, Sowerby, for instance, has chosen to forgo the right of defiance on October 28, while the Lincoln party has expressed a lack of confidence in its MP, Mr Dick Taverne.

Mr Kitson's motion is designed to put Mr Roy Jenkins and Mrs Shirley Williams, the two leading pro-Marketees on the spot.

Murder charge

Maurice Edwin George Dwyer (20), the 20-year-old son of a High Anderson Road, Millbrook, Cornwall, was committed in custody at Torpoint, Devon, yesterday for trial at the next Plymouth Crown Court, charged with the murder in September, last year, of Robin Wadman, aged 28.

The body of the victim was found in the rubble foundations of the old Tudor Palace at Greenwich, now the site of the Royal Naval College, during an archaeological dig.

The finders Mr Philip Dixon, of New College, Oxford (the body), and a four-man team will be re-imposed by the Crown for the equivalent cash value today—about £500. When they were issued their total value was £2,500.

Mr John Charlton principal inspector of ancient monuments with the Department of the Environment, said: "Two coins may have been hidden by the Duke of Gloucester for safe keeping in his home which was on the same site and demolished 50 years before the building of the Royal Palace in about 1499."

RAC rally starts today

By our Motoring Correspondent

The RAC international rally starts from Harrogate at 11 a.m. today. The 2,500-mile route will go as far north as Grantown-on-Spey and south to the London end of the M1 in 41 days of competitive driving.

Among the 240 entrants in the rally, sponsored by the Daily Mirror, are last year's winners, Harry Kallstrom and Gunna Hagbom, of Sweden, driving a works-entered Lancia. Other leading foreign teams are Saab, Porsche, Alpine, Renault, and Datsun.

Tenants 'fear landlords'

By our own Reporter

Many poorly-off tenants who are overcharged for rents by private landlords are too frightened of harassment to recoup the excess by temporarily not paying rent—as the law allows, the Child Poverty Action Group said in a report yesterday.



Cash for coins

A TREASURE TROVE of ancient coins which may have been salted away by a robber or nobleman 500 years ago are to be handed over to the British Museum. The nine coins—worth about £1,000 to collectors—were the subject of an inquest at Southwark.

The finders Mr Philip Dixon, of New College, Oxford (the body), and a four-man team will be re-imposed by the Crown for the equivalent cash value today—about £500. When they were issued their total value was £2,500.

Mr John Charlton principal inspector of ancient monuments with the Department of the Environment, said: "Two coins may have been hidden by the Duke of Gloucester for safe keeping in his home which was on the same site and demolished 50 years before the building of the Royal Palace in about 1499."

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Plan to reorganise building industry

By our Motoring Correspondent

A new plan for the building industry was laid before the Government yesterday. The TUC asked Mr Julian Amery, Minister for Construction Industries, to consider setting up a public procurement corporation.

It would be responsible for placing all construction contracts—for national as well as local government—and for the nationalised industries.

This, claimed the representatives of the TUC construction industry committee, would be a big step towards rationalising the present unwieldy structure of the building industry. It would make it easier for the larger, more efficient firms to operate, and this in turn could lead to lower costs for public sector construction work.

It would ensure an even spread of work in London and the regions and help firms to build up a stable work force with a greater sense of security and more permanent relationships. Quality of work and productivity would also rise, meaning higher earnings for workers.

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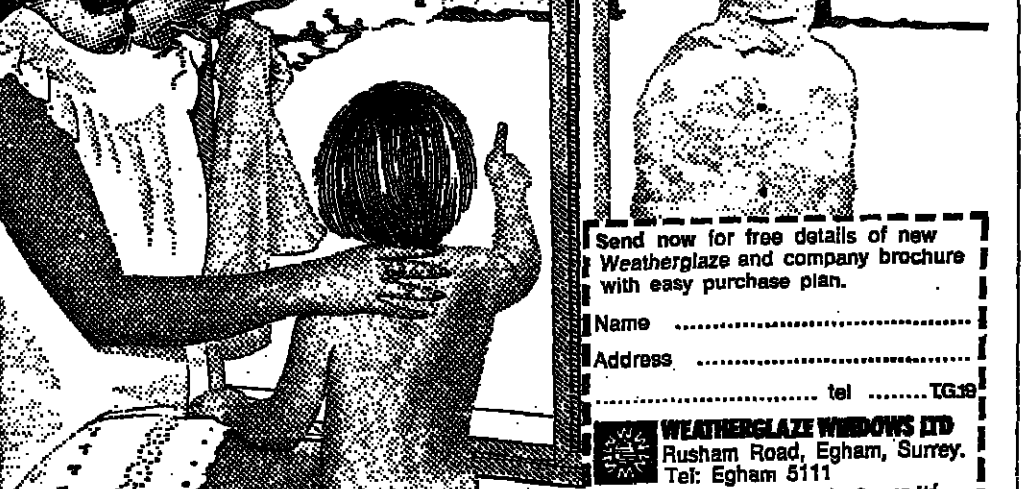
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£65,000 award for railway

COMPENSATION of £65,000 was awarded to a Welsh private railway company against the Central Electricity Generating Board in London yesterday after a legal battle lasting 16 years.

The Ffestiniog Railway Company had claimed £152,000 for loss of revenue since 1955 when the board was allowed to flood a section of the line for a reservoir. The board offered £25,000.

Mr Herbert Hobbs, giving judgment at the Lands Tribunal, assessed loss of profits at £59,693. Costs dating from 1962, when a previous legal hearing ended in the Court of Appeal, were estimated to run into thousands of pounds.

It is possible that the case may go to the Court of Appeal again. After the judgment, the CEB's solicitors said: "The question of appeal, particularly in relation to compensation, will be discussed."

Mr John Routly, railway director responsible for legal matters, said the company expected to have to spend £245,000 on reinstating the line.

"The deficiency will have to be met by voluntary effort and funds from sources other than those from which morally if not legally they should be derived," said Mr Routly.

The company took over the 147-year-old narrow gauge railway between Portmadoc and Blaenau Ffestiniog in 1954. They run trains between Portmadoc and Ddauit. Their plans to restore the line between Ddauit and Blaenau Ffestiniog were thwarted by the flooding.

In 1950 the railway lost a claim to the Lands Tribunal for reinstatement of the line elsewhere and this decision was upheld in 1962 by the Court of Appeal. During the six-day hearing in October this year, agreement was reached on a route to the west of the reservoir.

Other long running British legal battles include the trial of Warren Hastings, which took nine years, and the Tichborne case, which took 13½ years.

Accused clerk 'was given training in espionage by Lyalin'

A Malaysian with a "clear hatred" of Britain was sent by the Russian spy Oleg Lyalin to collect squashed beer cans from various dead letter boxes, probably as part of a "training run," Mr John Buzzard, prosecuting, alleged at Bow Street Court yesterday.

The man, Sirioj Abdoorcadar, 33, a clerk in the Greater London Council's vehicle licensing department, had also been sent on another mission to put a heavy briefcase in a car, but he had failed to find the car, Mr Buzzard claimed.

Abdoorcadar, of Anson Road, Cricklewood, London, was committed for trial at the Old Bailey on two charges of conspiracy by obtaining information which might be useful to an enemy and one of obtaining information which might be useful to an enemy. The prosecution did not proceed on a fourth charge of obtaining an article which might be useful to an enemy.

Mr Buzzard said that Abdoorcadar had been given a present from Lyalin of an electric razor inscribed "To our

dearest Sirioj on his birthday."

Lyalin had devised an emergency communications system between them, involving the posting of a birthday card, which in fact was never used, and Abdoorcadar had been sent to collect squashed beer cans from various dead letter boxes in Portsmouth.

The collecting of the cans and another mission to deposit a very heavy briefcase in a car at Portsmouth might have been "training runs," Mr Buzzard continued. The defendant's dominant motive "was clearly hatred of this country and a desire to assist its enemies."

That was apparent from his diaries. Mr Buzzard said that on September 17 police saw the defendant at York and found on him three lists of car registration numbers and a card, on the back of which was written the name "O. Lyalin" with the address in Highgate, London, of the Soviet Trade Delegation.

He claimed that in 1967 he had been approached by Lyalin's predecessor, Vladislav Savin. The Russian had given the defendant car registration numbers asking him to find out who the owners were. In some cases the numbers were on a special list.

The information that would be of use to Russian intelligence would be the fact that a number was on the special list, and the reason for this is that vehicles were put on this list to prevent particulars on the owners being readily available to the public," Mr Buzzard continued. Numbers on the special list included those of cars used by the security services.

Apart from the lists there are also a list of 55 numbers, not given to him by the Russians, but compiled presumably by the defendant going through the files and noting those numbers on the special list.

At Abdoorcadar's home police found telephone numbers, more registration numbers, Communist literature, and other books including "Kim Philby, the Spy I Loved."

The officers told him they were satisfied he had committed an offence under the Official Secrets Act. He was cautioned and said: "I was a bloody fool. It was only for fun," Mr Buzzard alleged.

At the police station, however, he gave a somewhat different explanation. "They forced me to do these things. I will tell you the truth. The dirty rotten swines forced me to do it. These Russian swines blackmailed me into it."

Reporting restrictions were lifted at the request of Mr Richard Hawkins, defending. Part of the hearing was in camera.

Plea in Mangrove case rejected

The jury in the Mangrove restaurant trial at the Central Criminal Court yesterday rejected a defence submission that there was not sufficient evidence on riot and affray charges.

The jury had retired for half an hour before announcing through their foreman that they were not all agreed that the nine defendants should be acquitted on those charges.

Their retirement followed a defence submission and a statement in which Judge Edward Clarke, QC, said that if they all came to the conclusion that there was not sufficient evidence to convict the defendants of riot, they were entitled to say so. The same thing applied to the count of affray.

Four of the nine defendants, all of whom deny riotous assembly and causing an affray in the Notting Hill area on August 9 last year, have so far given evidence.

When the trial opened on

October 8, the prosecution said that 24 policemen were injured in a riot during a demonstration against a licence summons taken out against the Mangrove Restaurant in All Saints Road, Notting Hill. Black Panther flags were carried. Charges of causing grievous bodily harm, wounding and assault, have been denied by four of the defendants. Six have denied possessing offensive weapons.

Rupert Glasgow Boyce (23), railwayman of Home Park Road, Wimbledon, who is accused of wounding and assault and possessing an offensive weapon, said he decided to go on the demonstration because he was not satisfied with police behaviour in Notting Hill.

He did not carry any banner or placard but held a flag in Ladbrooke Grove for 10 to 15 minutes at the request of another demonstrator who said he was tired.

The trial continues on



Eric Porter and Dorothy Tutin receiving fencing lessons in London yesterday for their roles in Peter Pan, which opens at the London Coliseum on Boxing Day

Population the politicians' hot potato, says bishop

A Church of England bishop criticised last night the attitude of Britain and the Pope to the population explosion which, he said, was the greatest problem facing mankind in a technological age.

The Right Rev Hugh Montefiore, Bishop of Kingston-on-Thames, said Britain's present lack of a population policy was "literally speaking, a national scandal."

The bishop, who called his Rutherford Lecture at the Polytechnic of Central London "Doom or Deliverance?" said he supposed such a policy would have to wait on an international population year.

"Here is a hot potato which politicians must learn to hold if they are ever to deserve the title of statesmen," he added.

People could not be forced to use contraception, the bishop went on, and added: "There

are many ways in which the Roman Catholic Church is to be envied, but this does not alter the fact that Pope Paul's Humanae Vitae, with its condemnation of contraception, is ecologically speaking, the most disastrous Christian utterance of the century."

Fortunately, the bishop said, the Pope's ruling seemed to be falling on ears which, if not deaf, at least were hard of hearing. In Holland, for example, there was no difference in the reproduction rate of Protestant and Roman Catholic couples.

But it is not easy for Christendom to take its global share in helping to contain the population explosion, if its largest Church officially believes that abstinence is the only proper way of limiting births.

Population increase was greatest in developing countries. But they were unlikely to adopt a population policy until they saw that the rich industrial countries also had done so. Otherwise, they would regard population control as a means whereby the rich countries maintained their white dominance.

Other points by the bishop included:

The earth: "Its resources are only finite. If we over-use them, they will become exhausted; and this in three or four generations' time, if trends continue, will surely happen."

Transport: The bishop asked whether it would not make ecological good sense to subsidise the railways at the expense of motorways.

Suicides: The attempted suicide rate among young people had risen startlingly in the past 10 years. People did not seem greatly worried.

By our Churches Correspondent

Boycott of mines inquiry

By JOHN ARDILL, Regional Affairs Correspondent

The Council for the Preservation of Rural England will not give evidence — on principle — to the Zuckerman Commission which was set up by leading British mining firms to examine mining and the environment.

Lord Kennet, the council's chairman, told its Cornwall branch in Truro last night: "Commission is rather a grand word for this quite ordinary industry committee and risks confusion with the Royal Commission on the Environment."

The Zuckerman committee is considering matters of joint concern to the mining industry and the amenity movement but it was set up by the mining industry alone. The amenity movement was not even consulted on the terms of reference.

"There is a point of principle here. Other industries are likely to make similar inquiries and they should be set up on an equal basis between the industry concerned and the amenity movement — or better still by the Government itself, as has just been done in the matter of non-returnable bottles."

The CPRE will happily collaborate with bodies of this kind but, while having the greatest personal confidence in Lord Zuckerman and many of the members of his committee, they feel it would be wrong to submit evidence to a committee set up in so one-sided a manner."

Boy charged with murder

A boy aged 14 appeared at Southwark North Juvenile Court, London, yesterday accused of murdering another boy, Selma, aged 14, who was stabbed in a school playground at Wandsworth, on Thursday.

The boy was remanded in custody to appear at the same court in seven days. Asking for the remand, Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Duffy said he understood the boy would be held at Brixton Prison.

Defence calls no evidence

The judge in the Welsh road signs case was told at Glamorgan Assizes at Swansea yesterday that it was not proposed to call any defence evidence, and Mr Patrick Webster, prosecuting, began his address to the jury.

Three men have pleaded not guilty to causing £374.50 damage to 13 road signs in West Wales. They are: Alwyn Gruffydd (20), bookshop owner, of Plasgwyn, Botolphsgay, Fwllhel; Terwyn Tomos (19), student, of Glynda Star, Llan-y-nach, Pembroke; and Eirig Wyn (20), student, of Glamfrwd, Deiniolion, Carnarvonshire.

Mr Webster told the jury that the case was about unlawful damage, not about the Welsh language. The signs were the property of the county council and no one was entitled to destroy them.

Mr Hywel ap Robert, defending, told the jury that the three men had a strong attachment to the Welsh language. Two had chosen to go below during the course of the hearing "because of their love of their own language." It would not have been impossible or improper to have conducted the case before a bench of magistrates. "It could have been done entirely in Welsh—but the prosecution did not so wish."

Mr ap Robert said many young people "are feeling extremely strongly about the matter of the disrespect to the language shown by the public authorities." None of the three had been identified by witnesses at the places where the signs were damaged, and no one had said that any fragment of glass or paint had been found on any of the accused.

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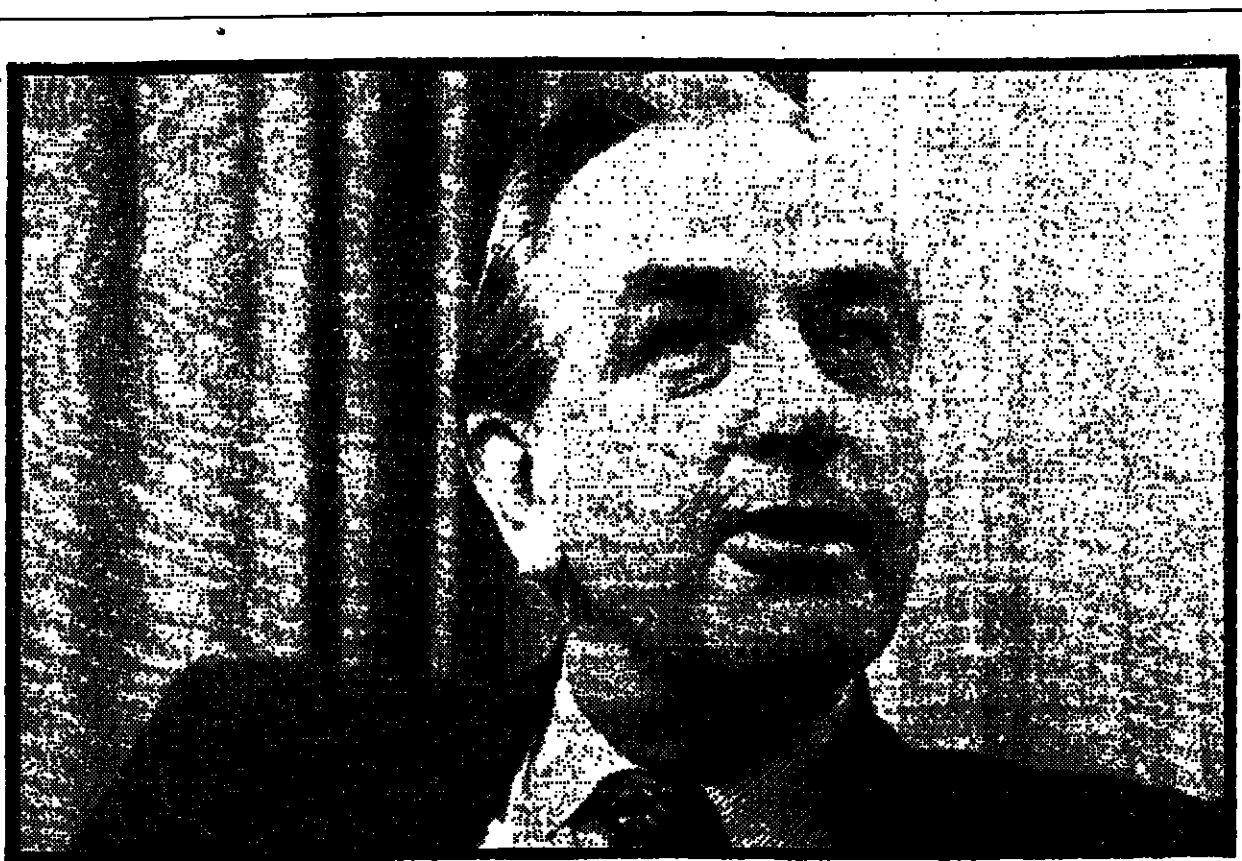
REMEMBER THE CLASS of '53? Elizabeth Regina and the Ashes at the Oval. Everest and Gioriana. And, sharing a little something of all of them, if only in his friends (and who then needs enemies?). A Very Great Man Indeed, Richard Shewin, novelist, was only lately dead; Henry Reed, abetted by the ever-admirable if progressively truncated Third Programme, chose an apt year to set about chronicling the life and times of one who seemed to enshrine characteristics of Greene, Maugham, Lawrence, and Forster. To name but a few.

In the end there were seven plays, four of which have just been published by the BBC. The idea came to Reed when he was researching for a biography of Thomas Hardy. "My mind would often wander from my subject," he writes in his preface. "Minds do this. And none more eagerly and rapidly, I came to notice, than those of the people I interviewed who had personally known my Author... always, a few nights afterwards, once more sorting my data, I would realise that the main content of their disclosures had concerned, exclusively, themselves."

Thus Herbert Reeve, scholar, gained more of innuendo than information from his encounters with Stephen Shewin, the late novelist's fork-tongued brother (blessed with a marvellous Carleton Hobbs voice), and from Hilda Tablet, composer—or lady music-writer, as Stephen preferred to describe her. She, in fact, was the character who really opened up the future for the series, and Mary O'Farrell was unforgettable as her alter ego: the irony was that Hilda was written into the first play at a late stage, just for the contrast of a fairly female voice, and Gladys Young was the original choice for her but proved to be busy on something else.

The plays can be read today as freshly and funnily as ever they sounded in their many repeats. The Great Days of Radio may be no more than a nostalgic cliché, but such things as "Under Milk Wood," the Radio Balads, and the Hilda Tablet pieces do seem to mark a specially creative decade. Moreover, the plays were sharp enough, as it used to be rumoured, to make one British composer feel quite litigious. The composer was not Benjamin Britten, in spite of the fact that Dame Hilda, as she was to become, wrote an opera entitled "Emily Butter" with an all-female cast and a villainous character Clara Taggart. "As long as the characters are funny it doesn't matter who you're getting at," Reed thinks. He says that the portraits are "affectionate parodies," and that you can't parody people you don't like. "In fact I'm not 'getting at' anyone, only myself—there's a good deal of aboriginal Hilda Tablet in me."

But to what extent is Herbert Reeve, the narrator, his own self-portrait? "Wholly," he says. Can Reed himself, though, be so meek and put-upon as was poor Hugh Burden at every turn? "Desperately. All the time." So shockable and naïve? "Well, aren't I?" People keep getting Reeve's name wrong, and this, too, came from reality. "Dylan Thomas once introduced me to his wife as Henry Green, but they were returning from a party they'd been to two nights before, which may have



picture by Peter Johns

The Reeve's tale by Christopher Ford

When the stars of Douglas Cleverdon and Henry Reed moved in conjunction, they produced A Very Great Man Indeed, great radio in the great days of radio. Reed's series of plays have just been published and Cleverdon next week stage manages the Cheltenham Literary Festival.

accounted for it. The name Hilda Tablet also evolved rather strangely. I thought at first of calling her Hedda Gabler because a distinguished novelist calls herself Rebecca West, which is the name of one of the principal characters in "Rosmersholm" and it came with only a small change from that."

Nowdays no one could find anything objectionable in the plays, but Reed—who says he's suffered a lot from censorship—had a bit of trouble at the time. "A fair number of passages, accepted by the producer, and already recorded by the cast, were sometimes, at a late moment, ordered out by higher assessors, on the grounds of indecency," he writes. "To the reclamation of these passages I have given... a most zealous attention."

It was one of the higher assessors who forbade Stephen Shewin's answer to Herbert Reeve's assertion that Charterborough had had a most healthy reputation: "In the year 1893 it had indeed, Mr Reeve. My brother did not go there until the autumn of 1894. By January, 1895, the cities of the plain

were as an herbaceous border in compare. I was the only boy in the school to remain untouched by the disastrous infection." A Carthusian somewhere, or perhaps a Maribourian, was gravely displeased.

And, alas, it falls to Stephen to reveal that his brother has written a play on a Certain Subject. "My brother's interests and habits were very far-ranging, Mr Reeve: they were not simply confined to seduction, adultery, fornication, and rape." Parts of this dramatic discovery are, indeed, heard during "A Hedge Backwards," the fourth of the group; but the deceptions of the fifties were positively encouraged to demand that Billy, the younger central character, became transmuted into Jenny, which created problems of its own. She addresses her friend Roger: "But, Roj, the only reason I went with that series of blinks he kept on giving me a new five-pound note, and saying how much he admired my chest-expansion; and any girl would have been a bit taken in by that, Roj. Straight, they would, Roj." This was excused.

Other exchanges, no less immortal, were allowed to stay, several of them involving Evelyn, who has recently completed his National Service in the army, and whose most precisely defined relationship to Hilda is that of secretary. Hilda and others are in Greece when the light of inspiration is switched on and she decides her next operatic subject will be the Lysistrata. She commands Herbert Reeve to make full note of the moment, of who was present and suchlike, when.

Evelyn (suddenly): "Hel-love." Hilda: "Hello, where've you been?" Evelyn: "Been for a little walk." Hilda: "Who with?" Evelyn: "My friend Spiro." Hilda: "Who's he?" Evelyn: "The one over there. In the white jersey." Hilda: "Well, my lad, you missed the experience of a lifetime this afternoon." Evelyn: "Oh, no, I didn't, dear."

Reed has the knack of turning quite a common phrase to shrewd effect, as when Hilda is complaining furiously that Stephen Shewin usurped the task of organising the music for his

brother's funeral. "The occasion was a calculated insult. It had been an understood thing for years that when poor Dick passed on, they should play my little dirge, written ages before, a little piece called 'Funeral Baked Meats', for two flutes, harmonium and tam-tam: oh, just a simple little elegiac sort of piece, the second half being of course an inverted cadenzza of the first half as you naturally expect in a piece written for a funeral.... And poor Dick was very fond of that piece, very fond. He said to me: 'You'll play that piece over my dead body one of these days, Hilda.'"

Dear Hilda. After an excursion into musique concrete reinforced, what sort of things would she be composing today? Parables for church peritons since? "I don't want the parallel with Benjamin Britten to be pressed," says Reed, giving an indefinite sort of look. "She was going to be resolutely a Schoenbergian. She was going to improve on him, of course."

"I was writing another, it was going to be called 'After a Certain Age'—I was writing it one night and the next morning Douglas Cleverdon, the producer, came round for some other reason and had to break the news that Mary O'Farrell was dead. She was a fine girl, but she was never quite comfortable, but Hilda was going to be the reason why Skalkotas had suppressed his music all his life. We were going to make out that this was on Hilda's advice."

The fourth main character, General Gland, as played by Derek Guyler, seems at least as recognisable as any of the others. He dominates the sixth play, "Not a Drum was Heard." There were lots of war memoirs coming out at the time, Reed explains, "and it seemed nice to add to them." The general is a soldier-scholar who is obsessed by the sound of bells and writes poetry in his spare time. "He talks about 'pregnant brevity'—he writes a poem he wants Hilda to settle to music, as he puts it." He also commands her to "Bangoon March." Had life turned out differently Reed, now 57, might have been a musician, and he talks with enthusiasm of the contribution of Donald Swann to the Hilda Tablet saga. Yet he has built up a steady reputation as poet and radio dramatist, and he once had a poem named by the "Listener" because it included the word "brother": "Naming of Parts," all about a rifle, has been anthologised; he dramatised "Moby Dick" for radio; and of his several plays based in Italy, to which he's devoted, the BBC production of "The Streets of Pompei" won the Italia Prize in 1953 also.

His modern literary preoccupations nevertheless are mainly on the lighter side. He likes Simenon for his creation of atmosphere; "I don't think of the imagination as being other than visual," he remarks when we talk of the contrast of sound and television. For the past couple of years Woodhouse has been central to his reading. All of which is as well, for he won't mind being remembered for his own lighter pieces. "I saw the Penguin Dictionary of Modern Quotations in a shop. I remember thinking 'I've got 150 sleeping tablets at home, and if I'm not in that I'll take some of them with a large Pepsi-Cola.' He gets more than three columns, the entries mostly coming from the Tablet plays."

Thomas called "In a Country Haven"; and music on film, book, etchings and music in Pillar Room, Pump Room, Old Bakery and elsewhere.

By a happy accident Professor Neville Coghill changed his mind at the last minute about the subject for the Cheltenham Lecture on Tuesday from "The English Tragic Sense" to "Chaucer's Women." By a less happy accident, though, the show has gone on long enough for staff wastage, nobody thought of asking any wench from the "Canterbury Tales" to illustrate it. By an unhappier accident still, the long Cheltenham memory recalled what Coghill himself had forgotten—the fact that Chaucer's women 15 years ago, that may be, he says stoutly. If one talks about Chaucer for 40 years the women are bound to come in. Anyway it's a new talk, and more tested.

Chaucer's approach to sex matured over the years from the ethereal to the downright earthy. He's always telling you he sees the expert from the outside, never as part of his own experience.

Having no creative talents himself, says Cleverdon, he likes to think he's done the next jolliest thing by moving it along to the next index to them all in his own book should be one of the longest ever, if, at 68, he now gets himself organised. But no need to assume any such thing. Or assume anything about the Festival. It's best to go to any gathering of literary people with a few assumptions. Then you may come away with a few ideas.

by Michael Ayrton and Mervyn Peake) is on now, and seems like the happiest accident since the demon of progress got into the NBL.

Publishing is another old habit which Cleverdon has reverted to. For a forthcoming fine edition of a Verlain work not to be found in the "Collected" because of its erotic nature, Ayrton has done his 15 stiching consistently capturing the poet in a whole variety of expressions. "Femmes" and "Hombres" will subscribe between £70 and £360, according to their several degrees of fineness and rarity.

The only Festival he attends are the poetry readings. On balance he is in favour of miscellany rather than "competitive" festival, where 12 people sing the same song in succession, though for instance it was marvellous when Wole Soyinka wrote "Idance" for the Commonwealth Poetry Festival. It went on awkwardly long, but it was a fine index to have commissioned such a fine thing.

Cheltenham this year has "Words, Words, Words" at the Everyman, devised by George Rylands and first seen at the Cambridge Arts; an argument in the Town Hall about the Generation Gap in Literature, one of those events where good speakers like John Bowen and Peter Porter have their discourse butted into; A Alvarez commenting on Sylvia Plath poems read by Margaret Drabble ("It's rather good to get away from the poetry-speaking voice"; Robert Gittings on Keats, something that has its origins in a projected major work by Dylan

sermons. He bought in by the gross, penny halfpenny an item, and sold for half a crown. Today they're a fiver each, and he thinks the equivalent investment now might be pamphlets on Bangla Desh.

Eric Gill lettered his shop facade, an action of historic moment since a passing customer, Ernest Morison, was enthused into commissioning Gill for Monotype. So much of the best comes by accident, says Cleverdon, the great days of the Third were redolent of accident. In the Stag and the George (and the Marie Lloyd club in between opening hours) Features men made it their principle to match drink for drink with the writers. Admin did not like this sine qua non of good notions. Ignorant fellows.

Some ignorant in their destruction of so many fine programmes. They never had the nous to issue LPs. People like Henry Reed had a huge following (not 10 millions of the Brains Trust, which Cleverdon produced with Howard Thomas, but enough) and unless you could persuade a thing through into archives, the hatchet fell after two months. The "Roat" was a mere 200 programmes. Disgraceful.

Of all his great features, he ranks "In Parenthesis" by David Jones at the top. Hopefully Claddeh, in Dublin, keen on Jones as a Celt, will now issue a recording. He's presently organising Jones material to be shown at the National Book League, last of a quartet in the "Words of Jones" series, playing the work of writer/painters. The first, by Wyndham Lewis (followed

THE THIRD MAN by Alex Hamilton

BEFORE HE JOINED the BBC on the Hitler march into Poland, Douglas Cleverdon once mounted an opera on £30. Currently he is stretching £2,000 to cover the Cheltenham Literary Festival which opens tomorrow. It's all very well to wish you'd been born Diaghilev, he says, but since he retired he hasn't had a moment. He really must be organising other people, and organise himself. He's supposed to be writing an autobiography and in four years all he can show is half a synopsis.

Despite some anguaries in his views on BBC admin, his story should be as stable and round as his persona. From a Bristol family of wheelwrights and carriage makers, he went to the local grammar school and Welsh blood made him naturally opt for Jesus, Oxford. He has already published the comic story of the coaxing forth over six years of the Anglo-Welsh play "Under Milk Wood" but he's delighted to add that at last a perfect text, without such timeliness as Llareggub for Llareggub, will come from the Folio Society next year, with illustrations by Ceri Richards.

He issued his first catalogues as a rare bookseller while yet an undergraduate. Unlike many of the fraternity he collects books himself, and his Georgian house in North London is lovely with old leather. Actually in 1933 he went bust on modern first editions, when the market fell out of Shaw and Galsworthy and Conrad, but some divine grace showed him the way to recoup through seventeenth century

OPEN SPACE

Nicholas de Jongh

A Skyblue Life

"SEVENTEEN YEARS I have considered myself a Social Democrat and have served as much as I could the great purposes of that party. At the same time I did not deny my services to other parties, being unwilling to spurn any vital cause. Roy Jenkins after the Common Market debate? Or some such. Actually it is Maxim Gorky, confidant of Lenin, inspiration for a school of realistic Soviet writing, and yet with an equivocal reputation at which the quotation hints. Howard Brenton has in his "A Sky-Blue Life (Scenes after Maxim Gorky)" brought the man to bizarre life without resolving much.

It is a new departure for Mr Brenton, usually found creating contemporary and powerful fantasies in which anarchy tends to impose itself utterly. Here he is producing a profile of the artist in pursuit of politics, or poised-perpetually between art and life. Gorky is shown meeting a senile Tolstoy and being commanded by Lenin to produce a trio of pamphlets "by next morning." These two central incidents are contrasted with a faithful re-enactment of a scene from Gorky's own "Dead Souls," the author scribbles the word "sentimentality" as the sequence ends. Brenton seems to describe Gorky as an artist whose politics happened only in his work, whose

voyage between pamphleteering, admiration of Tolstoy and stultifying living, marked a confusion between art and idealism.

But interspersed with scenes of raucous Russian life and dialogue like "I'm a peasant and proud of it," Brenton squanders his time by treating Gorky vaguely as a little devil. He is content with the vaguest of outlines. Walter Donohue's production is most resourceful in its use of light and its staging. But sometimes allows a style of roaring declamation which wars with the text. Donald Sumpter is, however, always true to the play's bleak and cold spirit.

TELEVISION

Nancy Banks-Smith

Michael Regan

"IT'S AWFULLY Bad for Your Eyes, Darling..." (BBC 1) is rather harder on the ears. Actually, I like Jill Cooper's awful child candour even her perfectly awful puns, but here they had the impact of a wet flannel. All who have been at the receiving or dispatching end of a wet flannel—and who has not—knows that its time of arrival can be confidently predicted and avoided. Assorted flannels described their damp parabolas during the programme. A "shirred sleeper" was observed to have Try Peace written on his heart. "He was certainly trying to get off with that red-headed piece," says one of the four girls. You cringe

and the pun misses you. Words such as "satisfied," "stuffed," "fixed" were ritualistically and brutally beaten to death.

The story line, something about an encyclopaedia salesman, was simple not to say deficient and the sex was sanitised. For instance Flotsam & Jetsom, the two squabbling characters, are discovered asleep the morning after. Flotsam in the hall and Jetsam in the living room which is pure but improbable. Or purely improbable.

There was a moment in "Michael Regan" Play for Today (BBC1) when, maddened by the twittering of the dawn chorus, Regan took his shotgun and blasted off at the blasted birds. After "Awfully Bad" one could quite see, his point of view.

"Michael Regan," a study in paranoia, felt a great deal longer than its 30 minutes. When you start to notice what the designer has done, the playwright has lost you. Which is, come to think of it, rough on designers. Noticing the animal transfers on a chest of drawers is the equivalent of reading the small print on the Harpic bottle. It is a measure of boredom. Desperation, obsession, despair are commoner than spots. The onset of insanity is a very valid subject for a Play-for-Today but I did not realise for some time it was about an unbalanced mind. I thought it was a social protest about them and the cash and the carry, "the cream and the skimmed milk, the officers and other ranks, the fillet steaks and the pork chop." Regan was, or thought he was, a peasant persecuted by landlords (both the gentleman farmer and the licensed vicariously variety) but it was hard to tell where honest wrath ended and mad anger began or what was supposed to deduce from it apart from the fact that Regan was unlucky in his pubs.

A PAT ON THE BACK

Gillian Reynolds reviews radio

WHERE to start this week? With the extraordinary "Hello, Goodbye" from Australia on last Saturday's "Afternoon Theatre" (Radio 4) which in the way of unpretentious art managed to be universal about people within a very sharply defined picture of a quite alien society: with Richard Wordley's adaptation and production later that evening of Graham Greene's "The Third Man" in which Ian Hendry as Harry Lime was Harry Lime and not Orson Welles and was superb; with any of a dozen other radio programmes from all around the network?

For it has been an absolutely marvellous week on radio for selective and habitual listeners alike, and it is neither just nor proper to have to skip over an excellent "Your Face" on China, a brilliant vignette from Gerald Priestland on Far Eastern films on "Newsdesk" (both Radio 4, Tuesday) and a delicious memoir from Percy Woodward on Thursday's "After Seven" (Radio 2) of all the different roles he has played (from Payche in "Life of Bliss" to your actual Hound of the Baskervilles).

On, however, to three of the week's major attractions, starting with Brecht's "The Days of the Commune" (Radio 3, Sunday). I have noticed over the past 18 months a tendency among what Richard Hoggart and Arthur Dooley call the "Hampstead Set" to groan a bit whenever Brecht is so much as mentioned. In a way, I suppose the Hampstead set are justified since they were all in the Brecht bag way back in the fully employed sixties, and probably feel they have been over the Messingkauf course once too often.

In the opinions I have heard so far of last Sunday's production (again by Richard Wordley), carping about style and stance seem to have outlasted considerations of the play's genuine contemporary political relevance. It seemed to me, perhaps, naïvely, that here was the play about Northern Ireland that nobody has yet had the dramatic courage to come up with. The debate about the rights and wrongs of revolution in the face of the world-wide capitalist vulnerability, the fine margins between class war and civil war all came over with so much force that I kept wondering whether the programme had actually been allowed to go out in Ulster.

Certainly if one had been listening to the play as it were only about an isolated historical incident, one might allow oneself the luxury of being mild about those ghastly songs (my dear, too draggy) and the somewhat pedestrian literariness of the presentation, but if the only time an audience feels it can indulge itself in revolutionary theatre is in an era of isolationist prosperity, then heaven help us all.

At the same time, I do appreciate the sunny which, in when something an author, an issue, a fashion—has been ravenously masticated by the voracious media. Take the Soledad Brothers for instance, subject of dozens of deeply analytic news stories, they have become pampered martyrs, posterised profiles. And then take last Tuesday's "A Story of Our Time" on Radio 4 in which Charles Parker and Godfrey Hodgson made total sense of the George Jackson story.

The technique was the cumulative one where the narrator speaks the facts which are then dilated upon by interviewed accounts of the people involved. Over an hour, we heard the voices of Jackson, of his lawyer, of the prison governor, and gradually the world of San Quentin built up within the mind. The spoken word produced an extraordinary response through which the facts took on an appreciated meaning. The Soledad story was no longer words on a page or a slogan in someone else's mouth. The listener now knew the story from inside the facts.

Ian McIntyre's interview on Sunday night with Richard Hoggart, this year's Reith lecturer, was a beautiful piece of work; not an abstraction of question and answer. It was a pointed and stimulating conversation which left me impatient for the start of the lecture on Tuesday night. And when Tuesday's broadcast was over, I felt extremely impatient for next week's.

Professor Hoggart is talking about communication, in the sense of how we connect with each other in society. He talks simply, his illustrations are homely, his observation is clear. He said on Sunday night that he was a good at writing novels and yet what he says about people displays all the skill of a great novelist. I feel that he is talking to me about a society, recognise and by Wednesday morning he had completely refocused my vision of people in the street.

RONNIE SCOTT'S

Ronald Atkins

Johnny Griffin

FAST AND FURIOUS might be Johnny Griffin's watchword. He is back at the Ronnie Scott Club and, as usual, sounds happiest when indulging in headlong runs on the tenor saxophone. Griffin, however, is more than just a speed merchant: bags of ideas and a cutting edge to his curiously diaphanous tone make him, at his best, the type of soloist who carries all before him. He can conversely bore one to distraction when a very long solo goes awry, or by his surprisingly leaden approach to ballad rhapsodies.

Judging from one night's review the odds on his current trip are slightly in Griffin's favour, since three out of five modern British rhythm sections certainly encouraged his tendency to vary the lengths and the accents of his phrases, though one felt that he might prefer a unit that was less elastic and more direct. It can't be easy to work with accompanists who have collectively reached a later stage of musical evolution.

Sharing the bill is Esther Marrow, who sings gospel songs on which the emotions depicted may be secular but where the beat comes straight from Church. Miss Marrow has a strong voice, good range and excellent timing. She puts her message across loud and clear with no affectations, nor any despairing attempts to involve the audience.

review

QEH

Edward Greenfield

Tavener concert

AS JOHN TAVENER bluntly explained at the very start of his Youth and Music concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, his favourite composers are Victoria, Stravinsky and Mozart, but fortunately that didn't deflect him from having a fair sample of his own music too. In these "Meet the Composer" recitals it is fun to find out what the victim actually likes himself (a sort of Desert Island Discs on the South Bank as Tavener suggested), but the main point is to hear the composer talk about himself and his own creations.

Tavener did so lucidly and sympathetically with a degree of reticence that led him at one point, before announcing an item, to pause, before mentioning who the music was by. "By me," he said with a rush, catching up with himself. Tavener is every bit as warm and likeable as his music, though in both music and personality

there lie reticences and depths that defy analysis. Here one quickly gave up relating Victoria, Stravinsky and Mozart—tough composers all three, whatever the surface appearance—with Tavener himself. The mellifluous flow of his own music often conceals unexpected toughness, but as yet discipline is not the strong quality it will be with all three of his favourites. Maybe a sense of discipline will develop, but it was fascinating to find that his student setting of T. S. Eliot, influenced as he said by late Stravinsky and very true indeed, showed little of the exuberant aural imagination that marks his later work so clearly.

The Three Surrealist Songs of 1967-8, for example, touch in their electronic effects on none of the elaborate paraphernalia that Mr Stockhausen deems necessary, yet the results have a warmth and opulence which parallels that in Tavener's large-scale "love-in" works like "In alium." The slow canon in memory of Stravinsky was aptly bald in its texture, but Tavener here showed how completely he has shed his earlier direct influence, and another memorial piece, a Responsorium for Annon Lee Silver, used this much-mourned singer's name in a simple ostinato that was really effective. Such verbal fantasy on a name stands at the heart of "Nimne Jesu," the final and most substantial work in the programme, now well known on record. Tavener's explanation that it stands in stillness at the centre of a new much larger work, a massive piece "Ultimus Ritus" lasting well over an hour, gives exciting promise for the future.

Tavener himself directed the London Sinfonietta Choir with expressive bird-like movements that inspired fine clear-toned bird-song. Margaret Lenisky was the principal soloist, outstanding in every way.

A PAT ON THE BACK
Gillian Reynolds
reviews radio

THE FRAMED TEXT on his mantel-piece says "education is the organised development and equipment of all the powers of a human being." If you add the words "and it is a slum child's steep but only ladder to the meritocracy," you have an expression of the faith which—in this headmaster—runs much deeper into the marrow of his commitment than does even his Catholicism.

From one of the dirt poorest, most traditionally sectarian and violent catchment areas of Belfast or Londonderry, his big secondary intermediate school (equivalent to an English secondary modern) has for years conjured cream results which should shame many middle-class English grammar schools. Last year 60 per cent of his boys passed all their "O" levels. More than three-fifths of his older boys got their "A" levels. Nearly 70 per cent of school leavers entered further or higher education—mostly higher. On past form, he hopes many of these will get into the Civil Service.

On his desk, he displays a prospectus which shows that three recent old boys now dominate the student union administrative posts of a distinguished northern English university. Also on the desk is the report he sent the parents of one of his best current "A" level boys, whom he hopes will enter teaching training. He apologises himself extremely well to his studies and shows maturity in approach to his work. He has reacted well to school discipline and is willing to take positions of responsibility. He has been doing wonderful work in organising charity walks and contacts with schools of other religions.

But that was last term. This term, the head, who says "my only interest all my life has been in education," feels almost everything he so fiercely values is about to be undermined. The boy has entered a police detention centre suspected although not charged—of being a Catholic gunman. For several weeks, pre-"A" level tests have been sent to him and other pupils in jail. "The army came for him at home at four in the morning," says the head.

About 100 of his examination pupils—nearly half the total—have been detained and interrogated, although most are now free. The head himself has given up going home for lunch. He waits in his study for "the lunchtime confrontation" when between 10 and 40 of his junior boys—up to 7 per cent of the total—are sent to stand about the streets ready to "batter" (as the head puts it) on trouble with nearby Protestant schoolchildren or adults. "So far, all I need to do is to go out when trouble is brewing and say 'Come along, boys.' What I am afraid of is that soon they will stop obeying me."

His copybook school, where the boys still obediently stand and chorus "Good morning" when a visitor enters or leaves a classroom, has become one of those where, as the Northern Ireland Ministry of Education inspectorate finds "teachers are finding it increasingly difficult to maintain a haven for their pupils."

The shadow is now extending into the head's private life. He speaks of reports "from so many sources that I can't ignore them" that IRA activists are interrogating his friends about one of the cruelest rumours that could circulate about a Catholic teacher in a politically tense area. The rumour is demonstrably untrue but the head can't get the message back down the grapevine.

He thinks the next stage may be a threat to his life. That was one reason why he spoke to me anonymously in his study during his lunchtime wait, on the day a boy from another school was shot in Londonderry.

"We serve an intensely working class area. Large numbers of our pupils are making terrible sacrifices to continue their education because they come from homes where the father is not working or is dead. They are very courteous boys. Really, their only hope is to get into higher education. This term, our



'The army is inclined to arrest and detain many of my 16 to 19-year-olds, just because they are Catholic pupils. They are detained for days on the insinuation that they are members of activist groups'

A Northern Ireland headmaster talks to John Ezard about the problems of running a school against a background of civil war

Children of the barricades



greatest problem has been connected with the army or the police. The army is inclined to arrest and detain many of my 16 to 19-year-olds just because they are Catholic pupils. I have no evidence that this is happening with Catholic grammar schools, just secondary schools.

"They are detained and arrested for quite a number of days on the insinuation that they are members of activist

groups. One boy was arrested at the weekend, detained for seven hours and arrested on condition he gave within a week the names of 30 people directly involved in trouble. Otherwise he would be sent to Long Kesh. He doesn't know any names and doesn't know what to do. This is doing an enormous injury to a young man of 18.

"In the majority of these cases, I feel there is no justification for the

detention. The ill-treatment—I know it has been denied—is certainly taking place at the present time from what I have heard from pupils.

"I have only their word for their innocence, but when a pupil comes to confide in me, he treats me as a counsellor, an adviser, a father. I've had so many in the past few months who had endured physical and mental suffering that it has caused great suffering and pain to me personally. What surprises me is that they are enduring it and not taking action. My fear is that the accumulation will become enough to make them join an activist organisation."

"I would know if they were activists. Their schoolwork and homework—they do three to four hours a night—would deteriorate and I would soon be getting reports of absenteeism. This is not happening. But it is exactly what happens with perhaps 40 to 50 of my junior pupils who I know are guilty of bad behaviour like stone-throwing on their way home. I am afraid the staff give them advice but they don't take it. They are the ones the community tensions really affect. The staff is feeling an enormous strain at all times. We try to take a middle way and my advice to them is not to discuss with their pupils what happened the previous night but to concentrate on exam work—to pile on the homework as much as humanly possible. So day to day we have pupils coming in from riot areas, anxious to discuss the crisis and yet the staff is avoiding the issue. Tension is piling up."

"For a long time, we never had discipline problems here. But about a year ago we had so many attacks on a school bus that I asked the army for help. The army's role was not to patrol the area the stones were coming from but to get on the bus and point guns at our pupils. Two Saracen tanks wait for them at the bus stop every morning. The tension has not yet reached the but-of-hand stage. But my fear is that, on top of community tensions, it could lead to a classic riot and the breakdown of junior classes."

"The symptoms I dread are first a lack of application to schoolwork, then outright disorder at school. I am sure Protestant schools are having very serious problems. All teachers are definitely on the edge of their seats but the army are not the people to deal with schoolchildren."

Questioning doesn't shake the head's confidence in the innocence of his senior boys. His criticisms cannot be investigated because he wants his school to remain unidentified. The value of recording them is that the Ministry of Education shares his concern about his school and is setting up a working party to study such problems.

Ulster education statistics often look unhelpful for the future. For example, significant Protestant-Catholic integration is being attempted at only four of the province's 1,500 schools. But it is also clear to point out that the Ministry believes a maximum of only 30 of this total may have problems as acute as the secondary headmaster's.

In the rest, normality apparently is being preserved. Some four-year-olds at primary schools as far away as Portstewart, 60 miles from Belfast, are spontaneously producing drawings of IRA funerals, gullies and burnt-out cars. But, as primary head of one of Belfast's worst Protestant trouble areas said: "We just don't know whether we need to worry about these drawings."

The Education Ministry is equally uncertain. It remains true, however, that in a province as small and nervy as Ulster, good educational news makes not enough public impact—while one sound of alarm tends to be received as though it is a bell tolling for the whole system.

It is also arguable that any unrest which interferes with Ulster's remarkable drive towards self-improvement by education—anything which breaks the meritocratic ladder—would deal the population its most serious blow so far.

**JACK
TREVOR
STORY**



The shorn lambs

THE LITTLE ones are back to school again. Dorothy came home crying the first day of term—she said the children had hit her—and after all Dorothy's the teacher. She'd been f'd at, blueed and four-letter-worded all day, poor girl. Her first job after training college and she gets thrown into the deep end, trying to make herself heard to a bunch of East End school-leaving age group pupils.

"The girls look like tarts and nobody can read or write," she said.

Dorothy had planned to talk about artists' lives rather than their works and try to capture their interest with the dirty bits, then say: "But he also wrote this." She would have needed an amplified megaphone. "Shut your face, fatty," they told her; and: "Dey dead!" They were drawing explicit holiday activities on the board, miming last night's adventures against the desks and using the new time-saving vocabulary for everything.

"Come dahn the stall and I'll give you some apples, darling," said Paul, at the same time goosing her.

"Why didn't you report him?" I asked her.

"I don't know," Dorothy said, hopelessly. "He's so bloody dishy."

This is what I call a natural order. No need to be depressed by the lowering of teaching standards, illiteracy, obscenity, vanishing cultural values, if you leave them to get on with it like a tank of tropical fish. Just chuck in a few anis eggs, they'll eat it, and eat themselves. For every school of piranhas there's a cruising shark.

We have several young teachers in the house at the moment and although they tend to come home shattered, they go out again in the morning like a team of commandos.

"Over the top!" Dorothy cries, her humour restored.

What comes out of it are the people who, in any great democracy, govern the country by majority rule; all they need learn is making an "X" on a voting slip or switching to the right channel so that the television companies know which programmes to carry on repeating. If an educated minority is dubious about taking them into Europe it may just be the fear of losing all their Continental friends.

"I fought it was going to be all palm trees an'at," a young man explained to a TV interviewer in Minorca, in a programme about the disappointments of package holidays.

I don't know which is the most terrifyingly indigenous, the aggressively loose and unmodulated backstreet sound epitomised in every other BBC radio play or the genteel provincial accent that Hylda Baker takes off so depressingly—both are filled with the hates and fears of the English class system. You'd think, since 10 years of compulsory schooling is wasted on people who don't want to learn, that basic education might more profitably consist of teaching children how to speak and sing and walk and generally use themselves. Instead, all this flaccid, meaningless brain-washing goes on, starting at the moment somebody leans over your cot and says:

Say dada!

Tonight Dorothy came home badly shaken. One of the boys in her class had gone too far—he must have done something pretty awful for she wouldn't tell me what it was—and she had been forced to call for help. The carpentry master had come in and beaten the boy with a bit of two-by-two.

"It was terrible. He got him in a corner. I couldn't look." But he probably deserved it," I said. "That's

not the point," Dorothy said. "I should have been doing it."

The graduates of this ubiquitous university spill out into offices, factories, shops, garages, and give us a kind of atrocious services that get in "Which?" A friend of mine, Graham, who cleans street lamps for Camde Council tells me there are three me for every job in the works department. "Two to watch and one to thin, about doing it." The money's good and you don't need a specialist education. Boys coming up know this, so why not goose young school-teachers while you've got the chance—leave it to you're older and you can get in serious trouble.

Samuel Johnson, in his "Journey to the Western Isles," observes: "Such is the laxity of Highland conversation that the inquirer is kept in continuous suspense, and by a kind of intellectual retrogradation, knows less as he hears more."

I got the same feeling listening to a girl in an off-licence listing the wine she had to offer—sweet, dry and mediocre.

"I keep it all down here to save having to go up the steps and show all me legs!" she explained.

Connoisseurs of secondary-modern education will detect that the shop was in Welwyn Garden City where the word "hafting" is part of a complicated patois; it is an omnibus of "having" and "to" but with another "to" added for luck.

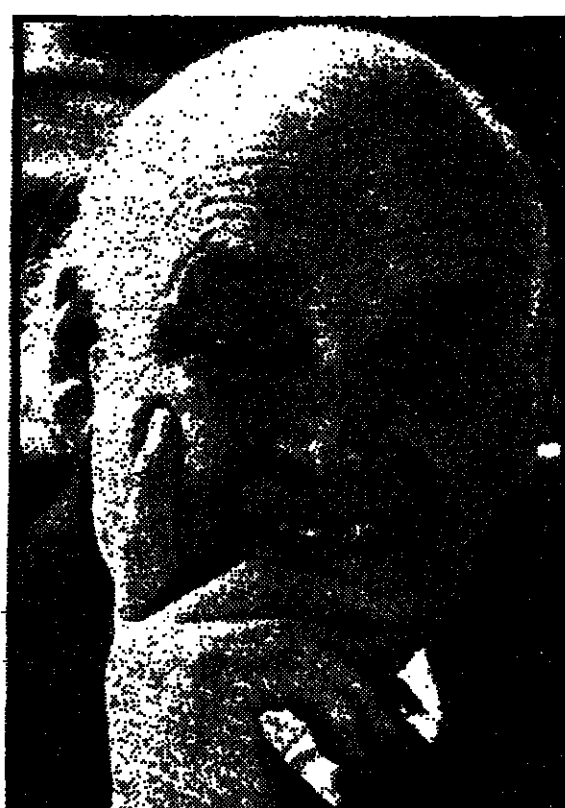
Many of the older residents have been to the Western Isles, and you'll find pictures of tractor factories where you'd expect to find Aunt Mildred. Their own centre is known as "Over the Main" and the original residential area bears a red uniformity of architecture, which can only be described as "Noddy." Here live the New Town Progressives or their descendants (Bernard Shaw used to come here to have his hair cut) separated from what they've done by the old LNER railway tracks.

"We have the only progressive educational system in the country," Miss Collins, the headmistress of the Junior School, once told me. "All play and no work—until they go to the higher school and are ready for it."

You can guess what went wrong with that. Every few months we parents went along and listened to the school playing "Silent Night" on their recorders (pipes). At that age, and even into their teens, Welwyn Garden City children were oddly similar in appearance, as if they'd all been brought up on Shredded Wheat, which is the major local industry. I tried to get Ronnie Kinnoch to use them in his film "The Old Man and the Sea" where all the women got pregnant by some mysterious, galactic agency and produced identical babies.

Still five of my eight children went through this educational system and came out practically unscathed, the girls making good marriages, the boys entering a worthwhile profession, both commercial photographers. I found one of them in his studio the other day, cutting fish fingers in half and inserting pieces of real flaky fish ready for a real flaky fish finger advertising photograph.

"It saves hafting to retouch the prints," he explained. This is Peter who is so professional he takes his glasses off to read while the younger boy, Lee, has just sold his first book "A Terminus Place" to Michael Joseph: like me they got the education they needed, which was nothing, which was just a slight interference with the natural order. They will soon be earning about as much as the Prime Minister.



SIR ARTHUR Bryant, knight, Companion of Honour, Englishman, writer of heroic histories about years of peril, ages of elegance, turns of the tide, and triumphs in the West, possesses the greatest virtue an historian can have. He believes the past was real. He had the good luck to form this belief very early, when he was in his twenties. He was sorting through a roomful of seventeenth century papers that had been preserved in his first wife's family, and it came to him that there were real lives in those letters, lives that had once meant as much to their possessors as his own. The letters had remained untouched for generations. As he opened them he saw the sand from the sand-dishes of the first writers still glistening in the folds.

"Yes, yes, yes, yes," he says, "I can still see it falling out." And he quotes a line of William Barnes—"And all their hopes and all their fears, be bygone things of other years."

There are of course other qualities which an historian might wish to have and one of them is scepticism. I do not think Sir Arthur has much of this. It is not in his nature. But he does have that greatest virtue of all, without which an historian has nothing. That is why he is read and why some of his colleagues, better equipped with other virtues, are not.

Sir Arthur has just published a new book, an heroic biography of Wellington called "The Great Duke," so I went along to his London house to talk to him about that and about himself, and we started, as we were to continue, with a digression. He is a very pleasant man to digress with. We started by chatting about a portrait of Charles II over his desk. Now his first book, which happened to sell 20,000 and therefore, irretrievably offended a good few other historians) was a life of Charles II, which was published in 1931. Shortly after that he wandered one lunchtime into a saleroom which was where Almsack used to be in the Regency. He liked wandering into salerooms. The sale there was just ending, so he went to another saleroom off Pall Mall, where they usually sold pictures of Highland cattle drinking, which he didn't want. So he left, picking up as he went out what he thought was a catalogue of the next day's sale. But he had picked up the wrong catalogue and when he went back to change it they happened to be knocking down this portrait of Charles II. He bought it for 45s and took it home in a taxi. It has since been said to be a Hals, which Sir Arthur does not believe, and neither do I, but he says, Charles II was in the Netherlands at the time, very depressed, and Hals was there too, a broken-down drunk old man.

Well, back to Sir Arthur. He was

born at Sandringham, the son of a member of Edward VIII's secretariat, and the day he was born his father put him down for the MCC. He was at school at Harrow, and wanted to be a soldier, but was unable to afford the British Army and therefore expected to enter the Indian. But then the war came, and he joined the Flying Corps, flew bombers in France, crashed several, but was thrown clear each time.

He was at Oxford, and then became successively a schoolmaster, the principal of an art college, and a barrister. By then the roomful of manuscripts in his wife's family had given him a taste for history. He heard Long-

and often praised their conduct in the field, but he had also called them the field, and the earth, and many were jailbirds.

Did I know that when the British army entered France in 1814 it had been obliged to mint its own money, and that officers were told to search for a few men who might be able to do this. And what happened? Far from being difficult to find, much men in every unit there turned out to be 30 or 40 professional forgers.

I wondered if Wellington's great early successes in India, and indeed his whole military career, were not an excellent argument for an aristocracy. He was, after all, the son of an Earl,



The Terry Coleman interview with Sir Arthur Bryant (left)

Protestant islander

man's were thinking of a new history of Charles II, submitted a specimen chapter describing the flight from Worcester, and was commissioned to write the book. In the completed manuscript the specimen chapter became Chapter 9, but an American friend, an historian, having read the MSS, advised him to throw away the first eight. He took this advice, cut 30,000 words, and began with the flight from Worcester.

With Wellington in mind, I asked Sir Arthur how far one could possibly understand the mind of a man who lived many years ago. He replied that the basic facts of human nature remained the same. But he also believed that if history taught us any one thing it was this, that what was in fashion now would not be in fashion in 50 years' time, and this was true of ideas and of all ways of looking at things.

Yes, but Wellington had been a humane man?—Yes.

Then how was it he hanged and fogged quite so many of his men? In the last war, an American general had slapped a soldier's face, and it had been a scandal; and one American deserter had been shot, and that had been a scandal too, wasn't it? What accounted for this great difference?

Sir Arthur, as I understood him, replied that America had become softened and sheltered by wealth from the harshness of life, and that thousands of American soldiers might have been saved if their discipline had been as strict as that of the Light Division in the peninsular war. Wellington had loved his men,

though an Irish one, and was lieutenant-colonel by purchase at the age of 24. Sir Arthur thought there was something in this. Later on, by the time he was a general, it had not helped Wellington that he was what the War Office regarded as a sprig of the nobility. But in the beginning, if he had been a poor man, he could never have had such opportunities as he did have, so young. Now Napoleon was a poor man, and the peacetime French army could never have risen higher than captain.

Sir Arthur considers Wellington to have been Napoleon's superior as a general, and likes to try and convince you that he was better at most things. Had I heard the story of Mlle. Georges of the Comedie Francaise? Well, she had slept with Napoleon, and liked to say she had also slept with Wellington.

When she was an old woman, in the time of Louis Philippe, she was invited to give a comparative opinion. Ah, she said, d'unir avec le vainqueur du monde; mais monsieur le duc était de beaucoup le plus fort."

Sir Arthur's admiration for Wellington's capacities seems at times to be very like that of Churchill's for an unfortunate and rather elderly English courier who disgraced himself in a most distinguished way; and he tells you the story of that too. The poor courier had been discovered with a girl in the park, and Churchill was told about it in the smoking room of the House of Commons.

"What did you say?" says Sir Arthur, in a pretty creditable imitation of the Churchill voice. "Let me get this clear. Half-past eleven on a

December night? Five degrees of frost? Seventy-six years of age? It makes me proud to be an Englishman."

There were two points in Sir Arthur's book with which I was unhappy. First he mentions that British soldiers could take three or four hundred lashes without a groan. I do not believe it. Secondly he says that at Waterloo few of the British wounded cried out. Far from that, those few were immediately quieted by their officers, and that it was a point of pride with Englishmen of all classes to suffer without murmuring. I found this difficult to take. Badly wounded men are beyond pride.

Sir Arthur replied that there was no fact stated in the book which was not

cent men's naturally selfish interests and bind them together in love and loyalty. His experience of Germany was almost entirely limited to one or two holidays at Christmas in the 1920s. He felt that decent Germans loved their country and were having a rotten time, and his sympathies went out to them.

Now he thinks he was wrong. Apprehension was wrong, because it is impossible to prevent another war. And he did not know what was happening in Germany. For one thing, he says, he never went to the cinema, and never saw any news films.

Sir Arthur has been and still is a strong opponent of British entry into the Common Market. He considers the principle of the supremacy of Parliament an important one. Parliament can do anything, except bind its successors. Mr Heath and his colleagues could not change the unwritten Constitution of the country. They could say they had, and sign the Treaty of Rome saying they had, but the next Parliament could change it back.

He went back to what he had said before, that if history taught anything it was that what is now in fashion would not be in fashion in 50 years. So, in the past, when change had become necessary, Britain had been able to change without revolution. It was no accident that all the great Powers of the Common Market had had at least one revolution, and sometimes two or three, in the past 150 years, while we had had none.

But apart from that, would he agree that the objections to entering Europe were rather more emotional than rational? Of course, he said, there was emotion, but as for himself, he felt that he was rational about emotional objections. He kept returning to ask himself what was a nation. It was something like a religion. It could pride in their reformed manhood. He also had a few kind words to say about Hitler.

I'm not sure that it is all that fair to ask this, after so many years, but Sir Arthur did not much mind.

He said he had been an appeaser because, having seen one war, he thought a second would be an appalling tragedy.

Yes, but appeasement was one thing. To speak like that about Hitler and about Germany was another. After all, by 1935 Dachau had already been going for two years, and Hitler had been rather publicly murdering his opponents.

Sir Arthur's reply to that, as I understood him, was that he was naturally sympathetic to the German patriotic movement, and that he did not know what was really going on. He had a tremendous feeling for the miracle of a nation, as something that can trans-

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ALLISON & BUSBY

New York closer by £30

It is pleasant to know that the airlines do not now think they will be ruined if they cut their transatlantic fares by quite large amounts. It would have been pleasant to have known it sooner. But the internal politics of an international price ring is a wondrously complicated thing. Yesterday's good news from Honolulu seems to have come about mainly because Lufthansa threatened to go it alone and to dare the International Air Transport Authority to do its worst. In practice transatlantic fares have now come down by agreement by almost as much as Lufthansa was proposing at the beginning. The agreed reductions are large. The transatlantic excursion return fare in the winter will come down from £113 to £83 and the peak season return fare from £138 to £121. It is interesting to see how much the airlines can do for us if they try.

At their other conferences, which deal with other routes, the members of IATA could surely now encourage each other to do the same again. BOAC already operates an attractive and sensible scheme whereby people who book in advance can pay less. This is already helping BOAC to fill its aircraft and make them pay but only on

the routes where BOAC is not in international competition and can therefore thumb its nose at IATA. BEA has a similar scheme for halving fares in Europe for people who book ahead. Any scheme which allows people to move about more cheaply is worth looking at, especially if it also keeps the airlines solvent.

There probably never was much danger that the scheduled airlines would start to cut each other's throats in ways which made flying dangerous. They are not really free to compete in this way because if IATA fails to stop them their Governments step in. Every country has its Department of Trade and Industry which needs to stay friends with every other country's D.T.I. The truth is that the public needs the scheduled airlines as well as the unscheduled ones. But while IATA remained locked in indecision the charter firms were acquiring more and more business. As long as the scheduled fares were ridiculously out of step with the unscheduled ones the IATA members were pricing themselves out of a part of the market, a part that they will always badly need. What they must have to make their new aircraft pay are not the travellers who were flying anyway but the ones who will now be able to afford it. The customers can read. With £30 off there will be more of them.

Three hot little islands

A dispute about the sovereignty of three very small islands is standing in the way of a trouble-free British withdrawal from the Persian Gulf. They lie in the entrance to the Persian Gulf and Iran (which is Persia) wants them. Iran's reasons are strategic. When British forces leave—as they soon will—Iran takes over as the dominating power. As such Iran wants to take control of the dominating islands—Greater Tumbs, Lesser Tumbs, and Abu Musa. They lie close to the narrow entrance to the Gulf through which the tankers pass on their way to and from the oil fields. At present they belong to two of the Trucial States—Abu Musa to Sharjah and both the Tumbs to Ras al-Khaimah. The difficulty is that Sharjah and, hopefully, Ras al-Khaimah as well will be members of the UAE, the Union of Arab Emirates, the loose confederation which—Britain hopes—will impart stability to the south shore of the Gulf. The Emirates contest the Iranian claim to the islands (which has some historic as well as strategic merit). The Iranians are yielding nothing and uttering threats.

Sovereignty involves face, and the Gulf sheikhs, as well as Iran, cannot afford to be seen to be losing either. The accusation that they would be prepared to give up Arab soil to Iran would undermine their authority within their own sheikhdoms. It would provide fuel for criticism by Iraq—propounding Ba'athist tenets of socialism, and almost always close to blows with Iran—and also by Aden which gives backing to a regional liberation front. Both sheikhdoms also hope for an oil find to lessen their economic dependence on the rich men of the UAE, Abu Dhabi and Dubai. But the most serious threat is Iran's stated intention not to recognise or support the UAE unless it gets sovereignty over the three islands.

A Broad Front for Uruguay

With the safe release of the British Ambassador, Sir Geoffrey Jackson, Uruguay has lost its temporary notoriety in the British consciousness, and is once again an under-reported Latin American country. But it is on the verge of an election a week tomorrow which could be as important to the continent as a whole as President Allende's victory in Chile a year ago. In three or so years Uruguay has deteriorated from being a stable and democratic society to one riven by violence of the Right and Left. Plunged into an economic crisis by the declining world market for wool the hard-line Government of the present President Pacheco launched an austerity programme which hit hardest on the poor and created mass unemployment. Tensions mounted. Many middle-class people became restless at the rate of inflation which continued to mount in spite of the President's measures, but he only added political repression to economic austerity.

It was in this situation that many of the more alienated sons and daughters of the middle class set up the Tupamaros and launched an urban guerrilla campaign. With violence escalating on both sides the country reached a position this summer when the Tupamaros seemed to be operating almost as a shadow Government.

But with an election due this autumn the most hopeful development in Uruguayan politics for many years occurred, almost in desperation. A democratic socialist coalition the Frente Amplio (the Broad Front) has been formed which in barely a year has won enough support to look

like a possible victor on Sunday week. Superficially similar to President Allende's coalition, it includes the Christian Democrats as well as the Socialists and Communists, a result which has always eluded a similar balance of forces in, for example, France, Italy, or even Chile (where only a handful of Christian Democrats joined Allende). Its candidate is a respected former General, Liber Seregni, who resigned in protest at Pacheco's growing repression.

For decades constitutional Uruguayan politics have been dominated by two roughly alternating parties, the Blancos and Colorados which represent mainly the land-owning oligarchy of some 600 families who own half the country's land. Now for the first time a democratic coalition has emerged with an alternative ideology, a national perspective, and a chance of success. Conscious of that the Tupamaros have gone quiet and the coalition may pick up many votes on the plausible grounds that a victory for it will keep things that way. To allow himself to stand again President Pacheco is trying to amend the constitution by a referendum conducted at the same time as the election. His agriculture minister, Señor Bordaberry, is standing as the main alternative Colorado. There are three other Colorados and a powerful Blanco, Señor Wilson Ferrer. While the Broad Front is hoping for a divided opposition, the President is taking few chances now and has closed one of its main newspapers. It will be to the Front's credit and in Uruguay's best interests if in spite of harassment it manages to pull off a victory.

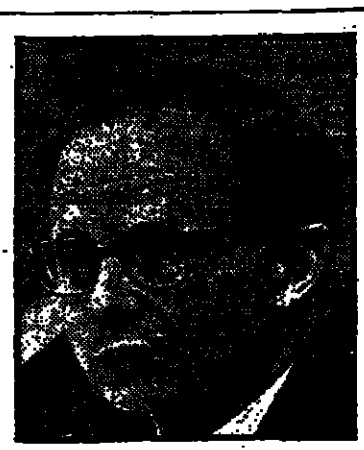
A COUNTRY DIARY

LINCOLNSHIRE: Perhaps because the musty smell of old prayerbooks and medieval stone is most powerfully nostalgic of boyhood and the sonorous rhymes of Crammerian prose still echo in the recesses of the mind I find it hard to pass a country parish church without a fleeting visit. Connoisseurs may dispute whether it is this county or Norfolk to the south which has the greatest richness of ecclesiastical architecture. I lack the comparative knowledge of a sound judgment but can confirm the surplus of churches in country areas which is an increasing embarrassment to the diocesan authorities. Few are yet abandoned for parishes can be linked and served by a team ministry and the occasional service keeps a building in good heart. But I came recently across the derelict church in woodland at Kingerby. The churchyard of formerly consecrated ground is submerged in the shadow of huge yew trees grown out of proportion through neglect in the rich soil of a burial ground. Because the local landowning family were Catholic the medieval building of the church escaped the fate of despoliation at the hands of the Victorian restorers that proved to be too often the fate of fine churches in this county. It is the decay of disuse and the encroachment of the countryside that now attacks the fabric. Bats hang silently in the gloom of the tower and birds sit through broken glass to circle over the nave. Plaques on the ancient walls appeal for the prayers of an absent congregation long since dispersed. All is damp and still and a cold silence is disturbed only by the draught that flutters the pages of an abandoned prayer book on the soiled stone floor.

COLIN LUCKHURST.

"Christianity is multi-racial and multi-national in its very essence. It does not believe in natural selection by brute force. If its unifying beliefs are removed, then a new tribalism is not too far away."—SIR FREDERICK CATHERWOOD, former Director-General of NEDC, replies to Ray Billington's article "Living without an overlord," published on Wednesday. Here too are readers' letters on the subject.

Standing up for faith



Sir Frederick Catherwood

THE AVERAGE Christian may be permitted a small groan when yet another cleric announces in a blaze of publicity that he no longer believes in God and he may perhaps be permitted another when there is a public row over his right to proclaim his disbelief from a Christian pulpit. It is a bit like Ted Heath claiming equal rights at the Labour Party Conference. It's a splendid point of argument but a bit silly in practice.

However, Ray Billington makes his case very well and he deserves some dialogue with an orthodox Christian even if he cannot get it in Wesley's chapel. The first of his arguments seems to be that God is an invention set up by society to preserve order and the second that man is now sufficiently mature to dispense with the invention.

The trouble with most of today's is that they allow themselves to be driven back from the first argument to the second and end up either with the law and order brigade or, in a small minority of cases, with revolution. Faced with a public argument about God, too many religious officials melt away like summer snow. They explain apologetically that if they talk about God, no one will listen, so they try to get on with the wavelike modern man and are completely outdistanced by the professional communicators who have spent millions of pounds in researching that wavelike and in remaining very finely tuned to all its moods.

The Christian church has no business to alter its message according to the mood of the society. Its job is to stand for what it believes to be right and true and against what it believes to be wrong and untrue. It is the job of the Christians in South Africa, in Northern Ireland and as it was in Nazi Germany

to stand out against the mood of racialism, not to adapt to it. The Christian faith stands over against the spirit of the age as an objective yardstick. But it cannot do this unless it believes that its yardstick is true.

The Church in Nazi Germany had thrown away its yardstick and when the crisis came it was too late to fetch it back.

Of course, the non-Christian can argue as Pilate did, "What is truth?" No Christian can prove that his faith is true, that the Christian God is not man's invention, but actually exists. But it is the job of the Christian church to demonstrate so far as they can that contrary to Ray Billington there is evidence for God other than that which is self-induced or instilled by others. The best way the Christian knows of demonstrating this is by living up to his profession and when we cannot do this we don't make much impact. But we are meant to give reason for our faith. We find it a good deal more credible to believe that the human eye was designed by a creator than to believe that it just happened by chance. We find that the Christian moral law corresponds more closely than other moralities to the conscience of mankind, that the Christian picture of the good and evil in human nature is more realistic and more credible than those which deny the existence of evil altogether.

But, above all, the Christian finds a third dimension to body and soul, a spiritual life which he did not experience before he was a Christian but is as much of a reality as any of the other senses. The witness of millions of Christians of all races, ages, classes and psychological types through twenty centuries is as much evidence as any laboratory experiment and really cannot be laughed off or explained away. And though there are, of course, spurious psychological conver-

sions, no one who has witnessed the autonomous power of Christian conversions to change men's nature doubts that this power is external and is directly related to Christian faith.

But the Christian's belief that the Christian moral law is right does not relieve him of the obligation to spell out its logic. Christians believe that acceptance by society of an external

Christians believe that acceptance by society of an external moral code is the only method of preserving freedom and that the rejection of an external code is the high road to tyranny. We are interdependent all right, but who is to be dependent on whom? If there is to be no external code to which even rulers are subject, then what is to keep the rulers in check? Do democratically elected majorities, like the Stormont government, have the revelation to divine right? Does it go to those like the South African government who believe in racial superiority or to those like the Maoists and Communists who believe that their system is not only true but may be imposed by force on unbelievers? Should the Anglicans in South Africa shut up? Should those of us who try to preach Christian tolerance in Belfast stay safely at home? Those who have been rebelling to the gospel according to Darwin, Marx, Freud and Russell are strong enough yet to take over this task.

No Christian can be entirely surprised that the decline of Christendom coincides with the rise of nationalism and racialism. Christianity is multi-racial and multi-national in its very essence. It does not believe that man is an animal hunting in herds. It does not believe in natural selection by brute force. If its unifying beliefs are removed, then a new tribalism is not too far away.

Christianity as a tool

TO THE EDITOR

Sir—May I congratulate Ray Billington ("Living without an overlord," November 17) on his perception of the ghost-like nature of the God-myth perpetuated in our institutional life. Set against the seeming dignity and commonsense of the humanist creed, this so-called Christianity appears as no more than a tool of social and political repression. However he has omitted to deal with the orthodox Christian view of man.

To say that the shortcomings of man required the provision of an overlord to keep him on the straight and narrow is to use Christianity as a political tool. Undoubtedly this is often done, but it is none the less a gross case of putting the cart before the horse. The Bible teaches that the ill catalogued by Mr Billington are a result of man's refusal to create a world plan for the glorification of each individual to the status of sons of the living God.

I agree that the basic issue

is of man's ability to manage his affairs without God; and the existence of God is a crucial question. The notion that there is no evidence for this, other than that which is self-induced is not supported by common experience or history. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ have invariably satisfied the unprejudiced inquirer.

That man demonstrates his potential to stand on his own feet is contradicted several times in the same article.

Passing the social buck was not a characteristic of Jesus, and it is not of his dedicated followers. If Mr Billington's aim is to provide the philosophical foundation for a drive to alleviate the ills of society, let us not waste time on Quixotic windmills. I suspect that when it comes to identifying the real ills of mankind we will again disagree. Let us at least discuss real issues.—Yours sincerely, (Dr) Stephen D. Prince, Department of Biological Sciences, The University, Lancaster.



Christ, who sets men free and does not "imprison men perpetually in the nursery."—Yours faithfully,

Nicholas Mercer, Selwyn College, Cambridge.

Sir—I do not wish to quarrel with Mr Ray Billington's belief in the non-existence of God, though the evidence for this does not seem to me to be particularly strong. What I do find very hard to take is an essentially Victorian optimism about the human condition brought up-to-date with a few rather perfunctory references to drugs and violence.

"These things shall be: lofter race than e're the world hath known shall rise/With flame of freedom in their souls..." etc. It really beats me how humanists like Mr Billington are still able to believe this. After Passchendaele and the Somme; after Hitler and Stalin; after Auschwitz and Hiroshima; after Algeria and Vietnam. . . —Yours truly,

Keith Mitchell, 2 Chippens Bank Cottages, Hever, Kent.

Sir—Ray Billington will find many supporters of the ideas expressed in his article "Living without an overlord."

All the established churches are more concerned with their continuation as class-structured institutions than encouraging people to think for themselves whether they find a god, in any form, believable.

I believe in a God who has given us all minds to exercise and who wants any belief to be between He and I direct. I do not accept that He could possibly want a middle-man in the shape of His son, ministers of churches, or of any other sort. He is either interested in us individually or not at all.

This places the responsibility for belief or non-belief on one person only, oneself, where it belongs.—Yours sincerely,

Joan Brown, Lynch Gate House, Elmstead-on-Sea, Essex.

Discussion

Sir—As Methodist ministers we write to express our sense of deep disturbance over the fact (reported in the Guardian Nov. 17) that the president of the Methodist Conference has persuaded the Trustees of Wesley's Chapel to postpone the discussion group in which Ray Billington was to have taken part. Since the meeting is now to be held on secular premises, the postponement is tantamount to a ban. It is our conviction that openness to the views of others, and willingness to meet people of all shades of opinion is an essential element in being a Christian today. It is particularly important that Christians learn how to listen to others, since we are usually cast in the role of proclaimers. Without that prior listening there is little hope of the Christian faith ever making contact with our contemporaries. The attitude of the president

and that of the trustees reveals yet again the fear, anxiety, and the serious loss of nerve present in the Christian Church today. Our leaders are too frightened to be construed as support for the views of Ray Billington, though the neurotic reaction of the Methodist establishment provides evidence for the argument of his article.

The principle of freedom of expression within the Church. Yours faithfully,

(The Revs:) Brian Jenner, Anthony Jones, Ronald Marshall, Charles New, Leslie Pownall, Anthony Wessan, The Methodist Church, Lay Training NW Region, Elmpark Way, Rochdale.

Sir—All Ray Billington is really saying in "Living without an Overlord" is this: For several years I preached the Gospel as a Methodist

Minister of religion. I now preach an entirely different creed which is called agnosticism. I throw the baby out with the bathwater and for so doing the Methodist Church threw me out of its Ministry.—Yours faithfully,

St Albans, Herts.

Sir—What a gloomy picture of Christianity Ray Billington presented in his article "Living without an overlord" (November 17). It is small wonder that he quickly disposes of such a despairing, fatalistically submissive philosophy.

But the article cannot pass without asserting that for many of us, of all ages and in all social conditions, faith in the living God, historically revealed in Jesus Christ, has given us the joy, peace and abundance of life which He promised. Furthermore, having said this, it would be criminal of us not to advocate faith in the risen

The narrowing of intellectual choice

Sir—Ray Billington's article, "Living without an overlord," is remarkable chiefly for its average share of the journalistic oversimplifications that serve so often as a substitute for informed theological discussion. All the tired old clichés are trotted out, presumably to ensure that discussion be relevant to the diocesan authorities. Thus: "the gloomy brigade" and "the God-myth" (assumed to be virtually equivalent) are studiously rejected in favour of questions about "man-made environments" and "the broiler-houses which are modern factories."

Even progressive theologians are, by contrast with the modern enlightenment, reactionaries determined to prevent men from standing "on their own two feet" (a phrase apparently borrowed from another context). The final insult is the heading of the article by an irrelevant picture of choirboys "a social anachronism."

Most serious of all is the nar-

rowing of intellectual choice presented by Mr Billington's formulations. We are offered a choice between two concepts of God: according to one, God is the anthropomorphic figure who "keeps men on the straight and narrow," according to the other He is a kind of receptacle of moral principles. Both concepts are essentially legalistic, and therefore at best sub-Christian, no better than crude caricatures. Again, we are offered a choice between two concepts of the objectivity of morality, one purely naturalistic, the other so oversimplified as to be nonsense. There are many versions of ethical objectivity but few, if any, see morality to be "a branch of necessary truth, like mathematics or logic."

Another choice is between dependence on God and independence or interdependence. But again this is gross oversimplification. For Christian belief, the interdependence of men is as much a fact as it is for Mr Billington, but it is grounded in

its concept of God. It is far deeper a question than a simple either-or, and must raise the suspicion that the article's own ethical position is parasitic on the very doctrine it rejects.

It must be conceded to Mr Billington that belief in God is more problematic in this age than perhaps it has ever been. But unsupported generalisation that "there is no evidence for God other than that which is self-induced or instilled by others" hardly further the cause of rational discussion, for they themselves depend on assumptions about the nature of man and the world that are themselves open to attack. What is to count as evidence? Empirical considerations only? If so, not only might the moral implications be somewhat less wholesome than the article suggests, but the writer is on shaky ground himself. For instance, he claims that men can potentially stand on their own feet "even if not many actually achieve their potential." But if

they don't, what is the evidence for this potentiality? Humanistic optimism believed by faith alone?

The article raised many interesting and vital issues, but in so half-baked a manner that the cause of rational debate cannot have been advanced. Far be it from me to contribute to the public marketplace and/or canonization of the writer. That is not the point. What is the point is the truth of man's situation, and whether or not it is correct to say that it is to be described in terms of some kind of relation to God. Whichever side a man comes down on, his decision is not what he is helped by articles like this.—Yours faithfully,

Colin Ganton, Lecturer in the Philosophy of Religion, Dept. of History and Philosophy of Religion, University of London, Kings College.

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WILLIAM DAVIS
in Chicago

The last laugh?

"HAVE we lost our national sense of humour?" a professor of English at Chicago University asked this week, and supplied his own answer: "No." Joke books, he said, were still selling remarkably well. Huge television audiences were being endlessly pilled with jokes. And there was plenty of good comic fiction.

The professor might have added films like "Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice" or "M*A*S*H". But I think he misses the point. An appreciation of Bennett Cerf's joke books, and of TV comedy, is not evidence of a well-developed sense of humour.

Laughing at others is too easy. The real definition of a sense of humour surely is the ability to laugh at yourself. And this is a personal thing. Humour cannot be put into neat, national compartments.

Nations are not entitled to think of themselves as exceptionally well up in the humour stakes just because they have produced some funny writers. Britain, for example, has no more right to talk glibly about the great English sense of humour because we've had writers like Wilde and Swift than Germany has to call itself a great musical nation just because Beethoven, Bach, and Wagner happened to have been born there.

In short, there's no such thing as a "national sense of humour." If one must generalise, it's better to talk of a general mood. (And even that tends to vary from region to region.)

Satire means essentially the belief that nothing is sacred. It is a view which most Americans find hard to accept. They don't want to laugh at themselves—their foibles, traditions, institutions, and currently fashionable beliefs.

I have, for example, been repeatedly warned not to make jokes about Vietnam, racial prejudice, and women's lib. "These things," I have been solemnly assured, "are too serious for laughter."

I have countered that humour, at its best, makes people aware of pretensions, pompousness, absurdity. All three were present in generous measure. Used properly, humour was a more effective weapon against, say, racial prejudice than anger. And it did not necessarily have to be funny: some of the best satire made people think rather than laugh.

P. G. Wodehouse believes the reaction against humour has come about because people are too "upright," too tense. "Wherever you look," he says, "on every shoulder there is a chip, in every eye a cold glitter warning the humorist not to start anything, if he knows what's good for him."

The good professor concedes there is some truth in this. "Practically everybody these days," he says, "has a hang-up and many have regiments of hang-ups. So when satirists attack persons or attitudes, critics are sure to gripe because they are sniping at the wrong ones."

In part, of course, the "cold glitter" reflects a feeling of insecurity. Older people, in particular, feel that their values and beliefs are much eroded much too rapidly. They don't want to be reassured. They don't want humorists to join students, blacks, and others in the business of weakening, or even tearing down, their carefully erected structures.

But the young get just as angry if you attack one of their sacred cows. Al Capp, for example, lost many old friends and one-time admirers when he started to make fun of the Youth Cult and the TV men who made it popular.

The latest group to hit back are the Poles. They are fed up with the Polish jokes which have been such a popular feature of the New York scene in recent years. (Sample: "Why does it take five Polish workers to change a light bulb? One to hold the bulb and four to turn the ladder.")

A prominent Polish businessman is financing a counter-offensive designed to prove that Poles are not such hopeless fellows after all. "Chopin," says one of the ads proudly, "was a Pole."

The organisers claim that they are "doing this for all America." A happy person, they say, is a productive person. If you make fun of him, he can't be happy.

Another area where, it seems, humour is unwanted is politics. Theodore Sorensen was complaining about this the other day. Most humorists, he said, shied away from "truly political thrusts that enabled a consultant to prowl around Great Turnstile for the next six months, prying into 'all aspects of the New Statesman' and the company's operation." The map for the job is Hugh de Cueterville, who once did something similar for Colman Prentiss and Varley, the Tories' old advertising agents.

YOUR friendly neighbourhood fireman is nothing of the sort: he is increasingly your general-emergency-cum-rescue man, and in spite of the hefty increases in pay recommended on Thursday by the Cunningham report, he may be — friendly or not — a bit disgruntled to boot. He works 56 hours a week, between 8 and 12 of them compulsory overtime. On average he spends 9 per cent of his time on drill, 25 per cent on cleaning and maintenance, and 57 per cent on standby, including his meal-times. If you discount the period he spends cleaning up and maintaining his equipment after a call, he is on active service for about 3 per cent of his total duty hours, which is a short spell in which to be a hero.

Even when he actually leaps on his machine, the chances of coming to grips with fire itself are reduced by the one in five calls that are false alarms (half of them well-intentioned, half malicious) and the one in seven that may be for anything from sorting out a motorway pile-up to disentangling a cat from a tree or pumping out Mr. Bloggs's hot and cold running cello. And in fact these non-fire-fighting activities have been causing some concern. The Cunningham report comments that this growing role has been an even wider national importance by the disbandment of the civil defence service.

The Holroyd report on the organisation of the fire service, published last year, reckoned that the demand for these so-called "special services" could double over the next decade. Last year, calls for special services totalled 54,000—which may not look overburdening alongside the



HUGH HEBERT on the Cunningham Report

The fire next time

245,000 fires the services attended. But in a situation where most services are under strength, and everyone agrees that more effort should be spent on fire prevention, it is a factor that needs watching, and Cunningham has in fact recommended that the whole work of the service should be re-evaluated within two years.

There is no statutory obligation on the fire service to respond to any emergency call that does not involve fire or the risk of fire — it is a discretionary matter, and Holroyd recommended that it stay that way. Mainly because, if the service officially became a general emergency corps, the non-fire-fighting calls might grow to the point where they endangered the ability to get to grips with a real blaze. In

some Swiss and German cities, where the firefighters have general emergency duties, these have far outstripped the fire calls.

In this country, there is no national breakdown of the figures for special services. But in London in 1970, the brigade dealt with 690 cases of flooding and burst mains, 700 leaks of petrol, paraffin and other inflammable liquids, rescued 163 stranded animals, released 24 people trapped in lifts, 661 who were locked in and 729 who were locked out. And 5,000 other assorted unholy incidents. That is quite apart from help with road accidents, which is one of the most important sources of the growing special service work.

There is, in fact, some divergence of view about this

growth. In London, it seems to be going up at about 10 per cent a year—roughly in line with the fire calls. The national figure seems to be growing less. And no one is saying that the fireman has no role to perform here—this is the service to which many people turn, directly or through the police, in time of emergency. But the Holroyd report—and some people in the service itself—expressed concern that the fringe activities should be undertaken only in exceptional circumstances: and charged for.

All of which has to be seen in the light of the call that there should be more fire prevention work. Successful acts of Parliament have loaded the brigades with checking on the safety of buildings. A new one, the Fire Precautions Act which

sprang from a series of hotel fires, will bring another 400,000 odd buildings into the net.

So brigades are faced with the need to be prevention experts, which involves too an element of gentle public education, moppers up after the motorway madmen, letters-in of the locked out, heroic firefighters, and general chore men sweeping out the station. And the last still rankles. Holroyd recommended that more civilian cleaners should be used, but so far only a few local authorities have brought them in. All of that seems to mean a 56-hour week on the present strength of the brigades, even if a sizeable chunk of it is spent boringly on call. So do not abuse a fireman's friendliness with a jape false alarm. And don't forget your key.

NASEEM KHAN

reports

Manor mix



TIMES have changed at Beaulieu. Times were when the fine dining hall was packed regularly with the cream of the gentry and leaders of society. But now, we asked Lord Montagu in awe, did he and his wife really sit at opposite ends of the long dining table? No, he said, he and his wife had private quarters upstairs. The Palace Hall (13th-century fan vaulting restored) is only used for special occasions.

Whether yesterday's occasion was on a par with the old days, is a moot point. On Monday Lady Montagu's book "The Manor Born" will be published (and by the way, it's a selection of recipes and nostrums from the old household records of her own family, the Drummonds of Fawley, and from the Montagus). To mark the event a rather motley crowd of journalists and tellymen were packed into a charabanc and taken down to Beaulieu where Lady Montagu had, or so the story went, cooked a meal from her book.

Well, not exactly with her own hands, said Lord Montagu. In fact the first course was prepared by their own cook and the main course by their hotel. Of course the eels were from their own river—the rights to both the river and river-bed have been secure since 1204.

It was a theatrical occasion. About 25 mediemen stretched for out into the distance around the refectory table, under the arc lights of Southern Television. Lord Montagu tactfully helped us on. "This is the eel. You take the meat off like this," he made a delicate incision. "And this, just here, is the bone." He tapped it. "Of course, it doesn't matter if you eat the small bones. They're like kippers, you know." Lord Montagu had, to be fair, a special interest in our getting the dinner right. He had in fact devised it himself, based on one of the household books: in addition to seasoning the eels in claret, he had prescribed laying them on top of his spinach.

"Eels de Beaulieu" comes from the final section of "The Manor Born" which is devoted to recipes that the Montagus eat and love today. The previous sections are, obviously, more for their curiosity value. For presumably the demand (or supply) for Viper Soup is limited, or the need for a cure for the King's Evil. However, should any readers suffer from this, they'd be better served — according to the Montagu annals — by a draught of Aniseed, Archangel, white deadnettle, liquorice and honey of roses.

They are delightful recipes, vividly illustrating, but impractical. Why did Lady Montagu, a nice honest-to-goodness lady, collect them in the first place? Well, she said, rather diffidently, so many people had said what fun the old recipes were. There was so much material in the two houses—four whole books—which contained such an endless variety of material that she wanted to see preserved. And she had become

fascinated, through doing the book, by the social circles that she had been able to reconstruct—who had dined with whom, who had played cards with whom and so on. "But heaven knows who's going to buy it," she said with worried honesty. "It is very expensive. Of course books in general are very expensive now."

Many of the social circles, Lady Montagu discovered, have died since the recipe days (the earliest dated is 1720). And many of the functions of the manor have gone with them. Who now would need "An Excellent Soup for Poor People" which makes 60 pints for 3/6, and which provides "a working man with a good, pleasant heart-meal"? Not the journalists, to general relief. They merely did what they do best: they collected. There was so much material in the two houses—four whole books—which contained such an endless variety of material that she wanted to see preserved. And she had become

MISCELLANY

Ring around the clock

WHO SAID HM ingenious Post Office had made it impossible for British phone freaks to dial the world at public expense? The Post Office did, for one. And miscellany, with a saving dash of scepticism, for another. They, and we, should have known better.

Miscellany's battery of telephones was hardly silent all afternoon yesterday. Calls from London; calls from New York from men who had had their calls from London; calls finally from London via New York. All with the same message: "The British system is much more susceptible to freaking than the American."

Freacking is a wheeze by which clever amateurs can imitate the control tones used by the telephone companies to open up the international network. In America it is reputed to be costing the companies \$50 millions a year.

OUR MAN bouncing back from New York says the point about the British system is that it is one of the oldest in the world. Instead of replacing the ancient equipment, the Post Office has simply built on it. "It is a massive cobweb of connections, big and small."

But the Post Office, we are assured, need not be too alarmed. Our man says there are only 15-20 "hard-core freaks" operating in Britain. They do it for academic interest, not to add to Bill Rylands's burden. What was that about scepticism?

Newer still

STAGGERING into the eighties, Lord Campbell has enabled a consultant to prowl around Great Turnstile for the next six months, prying into "all aspects of the New Statesman" and the company's operation. The map for the job is Hugh de Cueterville, who once did something similar for Colman Prentiss and Varley, the Tories' old advertising agents.

The Statesman board says it wants to plan the paper's development in the seventies and beyond in the light of changes in society and technical advances. One of the things de Cueterville is whispered to have achieved on a previous commission was to ease out everyone over about 50.

AN "over-riding circumstance" prevented the European Communities' august spokesman, Eino Olivi, from giving a press conference briefing in London yesterday. Was he, Miscellany asked, on strike with the rest of the Brussels officials? No, said the EEC, the strike ended on Wednesday. Well, who was so over-riding then? Well, said the EEC, he was expecting to be asked a lot of questions about inshore fishing to which there are no answers. Not yet anyway.

Escape clause

THE DUNGANNON "Observer" (largest circulation of any newspaper published in County Tyrone) had the world's press well and truly scooped yesterday morning with its account of the discovery of the two escapees disguised as clerics.

Its historically-minded chief reporter managed to recall a precedent. "News of the recapture of the two men," he wrote, "came in conditions reminiscent of those in which the youthful Hugh O'Neill and his compatriot Hugh O'Donnell had their dramatic escape from Dublin three centuries ago."

Then, as now, presumably, "the recapture of the escapees and the snow were the main talking points around practically every breakfast table in the county."

And then as now, perhaps, several rumours "checked out by the Observer" proved unfounded.

the company's chairman. "The lack of numerous technical and accounting questions, none of which give us any indication of what their decision might be."

Can the civil servants (not to mention the miners) hold out till the politicians have another look? Argentina is trying to raise the South-west African issue in the Security Council. Another nine months, perhaps.

Good and true

LABOUR is girding for whatever piece of paper Sir Alec brings back from his Rhodesian safari. Joan Lester (again) has put in an emergency motion for next Wednesday's meeting of the national executive, proposing that the party should send a special envoy of its own to Salisbury.

The signs are that she is pushing against an open door. The feeling in Transport House is that Labour should make its own assessment of whether any settlement reached with Smithy is acceptable to the majority of the Rhodesian people.

But who would Labour send? Well, there is a certain Labour peer, well-known for discretion and judgement, trusted and loved by Harold Wilson, not unfamiliar with the Rhodesian scene. . . .

Impending

WARNED is armed. The executive of Lincoln Labour party meets next Wednesday to decide whether to drop Dick Taverne as its parliamentary candidate at the next general election.

The general management committee of his local party has already carried a "No confidence" motion by 54 votes to 50. Next Tuesday night, Dick Taverne is moving the adjournment of the Commons on the motion: "The future of employment in Lincoln."

THE correspondence column of the "Times" carried a letter on Thursday from one George Malcolm Thompson, of Hampstead, reminding the Post Office that in May 1572, Francis Drake sailed out of Plymouth to circumnavigate the world. "Surely this historic event should be commemorated by a stamp next year." Could this be the same George Malcolm Thompson who has just finished writing a study of Francis Drake, to be published next year?

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BUSINESS GUARDIAN

Guardian City Offices: 831 Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C.2

Edited by Anthony Harris and Charles Raw

US gold move shakes dollar

European currency markets reacted sharply yesterday to overnight moves in the US dollar. The dollar rose to 168 pence, and gold was also initially bid up. London was calm, it was expected, to Bank of England intervention.

Meanwhile Senator Henry Reuss, who introduced the bill in a deliberate attempt to undermine the Kennedy line in the negotiations, assailed the Administration for "protectionism" in an interview. He said he was convinced the currency problem could be settled next week if the US offered a devaluation of the dollar against gold.

His move is also designed as a counterweight to the earlier Senate vote which would give the President wider protectionist powers—which he has said he does not want.

Washington observers say that the fate of both measures may depend on the view of Wilbur Mills, powerful chairman of the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, who must agree on what legislation is passed on to the lower house.

In the foreign exchange markets the dollar suffered substantially in early trading, though much of the initial loss

'Solution far off'

THE CHANCELLOR. Mr Anthony Barber, effectively denied any hope of a solution to the world monetary crisis at the Group of Ten meeting in Rome next week when he spoke at a London dinner last night.

"There is still a good deal to be done," he said. "The problem is a difficult one and a complex one, and one cannot expect to find a solution at a single meeting."

Meanwhile, it was learned that the Brandt-Fomptier summit is likely to be held in Paris on December 3, after the Group of Ten meeting. Main theme for the two leaders is to agree on a European policy in the event of failure to solve the crisis with US agreement.

was due to precautionary lowering of dealers' quotations rather than real selling pressure.

Nevertheless, in the first hour trading was hectic, and for the rest of the day it continued to be lively, with dollars on offer from many directions.

The pound, however, held surprisingly steady in New York leading dealers to suspect the intervention of the Bank of England, for the authorities would not want sterling to develop any further strength ahead of the meeting of the Group of Ten in Rome in two weeks' time.

This would jeopardise official strategy, which aims at seeing that any ultimate revaluation of sterling against the dollar does not materially exceed the 3.9 per cent already brought about by the floating pound. The sterling-dollar rate opened with a two-point improvement to \$2.4939, and stayed there for the rest of the day.

Continental rates bore the brunt of the selling of dollars. In the London market this was reflected in a sharp early movement as a 6-cent strengthening of the Swiss franc and a 5 pfennig appreciation in the West German D-mark.

These gains had been much reduced by the close. Swiss francs finished at 9.80, a net improvement of 24 cents, while D-marks ended at 8.3225, just 14 pfennigs better on the day.

The pound

	Closing	Previous
New York	168.00	167.50
Frankfurt	1.82	1.81
Amsterdam	1.82	1.81
Geneva	1.82	1.81
Paris	1.82	1.81
Brussels	1.82	1.81
Madrid	1.82	1.81
Lisbon	1.82	1.81
Stockholm	1.82	1.81
Copenhagen	1.82	1.81
Oslo	1.82	1.81
London	1.82	1.81
Switzerland	1.82	1.81
West Germany	1.82	1.81
Japan	1.82	1.81
South Africa	1.82	1.81
India	1.82	1.81
China	1.82	1.81
Italy	1.82	1.81
Spain	1.82	1.81
Portugal	1.82	1.81
Greece	1.82	1.81
Turkey	1.82	1.81
Iran	1.82	1.81
Israel	1.82	1.81
Arabia	1.82	1.81
South America	1.82	1.81
Central America	1.82	1.81
Caribbean	1.82	1.81
Africa	1.82	1.81
Asia	1.82	1.81
Oceania	1.82	1.81
Antarctica	1.82	1.81

Index down

CLOSELY following Wall Street's overnight drop, and reflecting the stock market's fears about the Coventry toolroom situation, the "Financial Times" all-share index moved back from 179.34 to 178.77 points yesterday.

October peak for unit trust sales, but accounts are fewer

By STEWART FLEMING

The seasonal recovery in unit trust sales gathered momentum in October to produce the best monthly sales figures of the year. Net new investment jumped to £7.8 million from the September figure of £2.8 million.

In August net sales were only £243,000. Both gross and net sales of units are higher than for October of 1970. The previous sales peak for the year was £24.12 million in June, but this total was artificially inflated by the £10 million of units sold through the Save and Prosper linked investment trust. The October sales figures will, no doubt, be widely interpreted as evidence that unit trust sales have passed their nadir. There may even be hopes of another "bull market" boom in sales.

But even industry representatives were sounding a note of caution yesterday. It was suggested that the falling feature of the October figures released by the Association of Unit Trusts is the continued decline in the number of unit holders' accounts. These fell by a further 1,713 in October to 2,329,573. A year ago there were 78,691 more unit trust accounts.

Taken in conjunction with the higher gross sales figure of £19.7 million (against £16.3 million in September) the decline in the number of unit holders' accounts suggests that some of the buying is coming from existing holders who are increasing their investment.

This extra support is most likely to be coming from satisfied long-term holders. In contrast many of the short-term unit trust investors who made their first purchases in 1968 and 1969—and subsequently saw their investments decline in value—have been cashing in their units when they have recovered most of these losses.

Both arguments indicate that, at least at this stage in the stock market cycle, unit trust investment is not penetrating a wider market. Further evidence on this point is the increase during the year of the average holding.

This has now risen to £769 compared with £593 this time last year. If the small investor were being tempted back into unit trust investment he would be pulling this average down.

Whether more widespread confidence in unit trusts will return with a further rise in stock market prices remains to be seen.

The monthly sales of unit trusts cannot be seen in isolation, however. Earlier this week, Mr James Anderson, managing director of Abbey Life, the leading property bond organisation, said that sales of property linked investments were averaging £12 million per month. Yesterday another leading unit trust manager confirmed that at present a wider spectrum of savers is finding property bonds a more attractive and more natural investment than unit trusts, and that this

BIA probe on problem of inflation

The British Insurance Association is to undertake a research programme on the effect of inflation on insurance, particularly motor insurance, a spokesman announced yesterday.

The association's economists advisory group has found three main reasons for insurance companies' special problems caused by inflation: expenses and claims costs move roughly in step with average earnings, not consumer prices; there are time-lags between the setting of premium rates and the settlement of claims; and to maintain the financial position of companies, premiums must not only cover inflationary increases in claims costs and expenses but allow sufficient profit to maintain the value of reserves and dividends in real terms.

Lonrho to report late

The 1971 figures of Lonrho, the beleaguered international trading company, are not now expected to be available until accountants Peat Marwick Mitchell have completed their investigation into its financial position.

The figures were due for publication this week, but as Peat Marwick is unable to say when its findings will be presented to Lonrho's board, the actual date of publication cannot be determined.

Peat Marwick has a team of 25 working on the situation. They are at present in East Africa, South Africa, Rhodesia, Swaziland, and Belgium.

Director quits LRC on policy dispute

The managing director of the rubber division of LRC International, Mr M. F. Crow, has resigned his position after an apparent policy disagreement with his co-directors.

Sir Edward Howard, chairman of LRC and recently-elected Lord Mayor of London, said yesterday that Mr Crow was "parting on very good terms" with the company. But "we didn't quite see eye to eye" on certain matters and he has left by mutual agreement.

Mr Crow joined LRC, the rubber, contraceptive, toiletry, pharmaceutical, and wine shop group, less than three years ago. He was formerly with Unilever in a marketing role, and at LRC he was responsible for the running of the company's most profitable subsidiary, LR Industries.

Until a replacement is found, Mr F. J. Davis, deputy chairman and managing director of the whole group, will take over the direct management of the rubber division.

Wall Street

Prices on the New York Stock Exchange continued to slide yesterday. The Dow Jones index recorded the setback as a 4.68 points fall to 101.87.

THE SHARES of Simon Engineering, one of Britain's largest process plant manufacturers, were yesterday hit by rumours that the group had made huge losses on a contract and was seeking finance from City institutions.

Late in the afternoon the company denied the rumours about the losses but confirmed that it would raise between £4 million and £5 million through a debenture issue. It also revealed that profit would this year be sharply lower and would range between £2.5 million and £3 million, compared with £3.1 million last year.

The shares dropped at one time by 16p to 100p after the rumours started. They were then bought back to 105p between-depending on who was telling the story—£500,000 and £12 million on a £16 million Cuban fertilizer plant contract passed four years ago.

Mr Leopold Brook, the group's chairman, said there was no trouble at all on this or any other contract. He

By ROMAN EISENSTEIN

said the Cuban plant involved well-tried processes which presented no technical difficulties.

Mr Brook said the debenture issue, to be made in about a fortnight by Hill Samuel, was a normal operation for a group that was virtually unengaged. The money would be used for the financing of some existing contracts and the reduction of bank overdrafts.

He explained that the forecast of lower profit was made largely because of the lack of orders on the process plant side, which accounts for about half of the business. This has already resulted in 200 redundancies among the technical staff at the Stockport headquarters of the company and would involve another 200 before the end of the year to bring the number of workers at Stockport to about 1,500.

Although the number is not large in absolute terms, it will add to an already acute

unemployment situation in the area. Moreover the men who are being laid off are generally the better qualified draughtsmen, engineers, and plant designers and they will find it difficult to find alternative employment.

Mr Brook said the lack of orders was a world-wide phenomenon and showed the complete dependency currently prevailing in heavy industry. He did not anticipate any improvement in the situation next year.

The only hope, he said, was Government intervention. He had heard that the Government was preparing to make special investment grants for short time in order to stimulate investment in heavy engineering. Simon Engineering would welcome such a move.

The market in the shares ended on a confused note with jobbers quoting widely divergent prices ranging between 106p and 116p a share in after-hours dealings. Analysts generally expected the shares to open lower on Monday.

Glasgow firm in trouble

Yarrow and Co., the Glasgow-based engineer, boiler-maker, and shipbuilder, has run into serious trouble with a contract placed by the Great London Council, and is unlikely to meet the chairman's interim forecast of results for the year.

Sir Eric G. Yarrow, the chairman, says in a letter to shareholders that the GLC contract for a prototype incinerator plant will result in a substantial loss being incurred by a subsidiary company, Yarrow Engineers (Glasgow).

He says that the amount of the loss is dependent upon the outcome of negotiations with the GLC and the company's subcontractors on "this unexpected

difficult contract." But he points out that the group results for the year to the end of June, 1971, will not be as expected in his interim statement in March.

Sir Eric warns shareholders in his letter that the sums involved in the GLC deal are considerable, and assessment of the probable financial outcome has imposed a delay in the preparation of the subsidiary's accounts.

As a result it will not be possible to submit the group accounts at the annual meeting in December.

He says that it will be proposed at the annual meeting to adjourn the meeting until the group accounts are available, and this is expected to be some time in February, 1972. He points out that leaving aside Yarrow Engineers the other income of the group should not be less than indicated at the interim stage.

Sir Eric says that the integration of Yarrow (Shipbuilders) into the Yarrow Group, following the acquisition of 51 per cent of the capital from Upper Clyde Shipbuilders earlier this year, has proceeded according to plan.

The board has no reason to change its view that the move to make Yarrow (Shipbuilders) a wholly-owned subsidiary and employees of Yarrow and Company.

Look at what the Save and Prosper Property Fund offers you.

1. Expert Property Fund Management
2. Up to 8% p.a. as Income
3. Special 100% growth guarantee
4. Life insurance
5. Tax advantages

1. Expert Property Fund Management

Everybody recognises that property can be a first-class investment. And most investors realise that a well-balanced portfolio should contain a stake in property.

Few private investors, however, have the time, resources or the expert knowledge needed to invest in property on their own account. The natural solution is a property fund.

The problem comes in making a choice between the various property funds. A vital consideration is to look to the quality and reputation of the management. Few property fund management companies could have better credentials than the Save and Prosper Group, whose experience in money management dates back to 1934 and who now manage over £550 million for over 700,000 people.

Reinforcing the general experience and reputation of the Save and Prosper Group is the Property Investment Committee selected specially for this purpose by the Group. The members of the committee are C. D. Pilcher, C.B.E., F.R.I.C.S. (Chairman), C. J. Messer, W. G. N. Miller, M.A., C. F. Penruddock, C.B.E., and O. P. Stutchbury.

They are assisted by Messrs. Henley & Baker, who specialise in shop, office and industrial property throughout the U.K. And the Fund is valued regularly by an independent firm of valuers, Messrs. Citibank, Chartered Surveyors.

By taking out an insurance policy linked to the Save and Prosper Property Fund you can get all the benefits of an investment in property, with a unique double-your-money guarantee, valuable life cover, and significant tax advantages.

The Fund Managers have freedom to invest in all kinds of first-class commercial and industrial property, development projects and other forms of property.

The object of the Fund is maximum growth of capital in the long term. And capital can grow both from increases in property values and the re-investment of all net income from them.

2. Up to 8% p.a. as Income

One of the key benefits of the Save and Prosper Property Fund for many investors is the special Income Facility:

• You choose the level that suits you best. Either 4% 6% or 8% per year net.

• It is paid to you with no income tax or capital gains tax liability (see "Tax Advantages").

Payments are made half yearly, on 30th November and 31st May. Proposals received during November, 1971 will be eligible for Income Facility payments in May, 1972.

You can take advantage of the Income Facility if your outlay is £1,000 or more in any one policy. This is how it works.

The Fund is divided into units, an appropriate number of which are allocated to your policy. The Fund's net income is automatically re-invested to increase the value of these units still further. The Income Facility is provided by realising the appropriate number of your units at the bid price and, given reasonable growth in property values, payments should steadily increase.

In any event, sufficient units will be realised to ensure that no payment will be less than the previous one.

The table shows the effect of different payment rates, assuming an annual growth rate of the units of 7½%.

Payment Rate	Policy Value	Pay-ment	Policy Value	Pay-ment	Policy Value	Pay-ment
At start—£1,000 outlay	£90	£90	£90	£90	£90	£90
End of year 1	1,021	1,011	1,044	1,034	1,067	1,057
2	1,097	1,087	1,120	1,110	1,143	1,133
3	1,180	1,170	1,203	1,193	1,226	1,216
4	1,269	1,259	1,292	1,282	1,315	1,305
5	1,363	1,353	1,386	1,376	1,409	1,399

At the end of year 5 Your policy is now worth £1,363 £1,112 £1,000 £888 £718 £610

You can take advantage of the Income Facility if your outlay is £1,000 or more in any one policy. This is how it works.

resources of Save and Prosper Insurance Limited: that your money will at least double in value after 20 years.

But in practice, your money should do considerably better than that. The chart shows how £1,000 would grow over 10, 15 and 20 years, assuming an annual growth rate in the units of 7½%.

GROWTH OF £1,000 AT 7½% p.a.	10 years	15 years	20 years
OVER A 10-YEAR PERIOD	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500
OVER A 15-YEAR PERIOD	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500
OVER A 20-YEAR PERIOD	£1,500	£1,500	£1,500

N.B. The assumed annual growth rate of the units includes increase in capital value (net of tax on capital gains) and reinvested net income.

It is, of course, impossible to forecast growth in unit values with complete accuracy, and, of course, property values can fall as well as rise. But over any long-term outlay, we believe the Fund will continue to be upward, and the assumed 7½% p.a. growth rate shown above may prove conservative.

4. Life insurance

A Save and Prosper Property Fund single payment policy automatically provides you with important life insurance cover.

This life cover usually gives in value each year to a maximum of twice your original outlay. While, if you are under 30, the minimum cover starts at 200%, and remains at that level.

The table below details life cover between the ages of 30 and 65. If you are over 65, special terms are available on request.

Age next birthday when you start	Your life cover as a % of your outlay	Your life cover grows each year by	To an amount after 10 years of	Up to an amount after 20 years of
Up to age 30	200	%	200	200
31-40	170	14	185	200
41-45	140	3	170	200
46-55	110	4	155	200
56-65	100	5	150	200

If you take advantage of the Income Facility, the growing life insurance cover and the guarantee to double your money over 20 years still apply. But both would now relate to the number of the remaining units allocated to your policy, rather than the number originally allocated.

5. Tax advantages

Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax. You have no personal income tax or capital gains tax liability on any money you take out of the Fund. The Fund's liability to tax on its capital gains and income is allowed for in the price of units.

Surplus. The surplus payer has the advantage that there is no liability to surplus on the re-invested income in the Fund.

However, if you die or surrender your policy (wholly, or in part through the Income Facility) there could be a

surplus assessment on the increase in its value, depending on your overall tax position at the time.

Any surplus liability can normally be minimised by choosing a relatively low income year for cashing in.

Surplus liability is calculated by dividing the profit made by the number of years your policy has been in force. The resulting figure is added to your income for the year (that of surrender or death) to determine your surplus rate. Surplus at that rate is then payable on your profit.

A monthly savings plan

In addition to a single payment policy, you can also invest through a Save-Insure-and-Prosper Plan. This is a simple way to build up a strong stake in the Save and Prosper Property Fund by regular monthly savings. With an S-I-P Plan you also get life insurance cover and tax relief.

How to profit from the Save and Prosper Property Fund

To take out a single payment policy, simply complete the larger Proposal Form and mail it to us with your remittance.

If you are interested in regular monthly saving through a Save-Insure-and-Prosper Plan, just complete and post the smaller coupon. We will send you all the information you need.

Further details

Unit Pricing. The Save and Prosper Property Fund is divided into units, an appropriate number of which are credited to your policy. All the Fund's net income is re-invested to increase the units' value. And the unit price—which is quoted in the Press—is already adjusted to allow for the Fund's liability to tax on capital gains. This means you always know exactly how much your savings are worth.

Repayment. You can withdraw your single payment policy without penalty, normally at any time, for the full value (bid price) of the units credited to your policy. Save and Prosper Group has arranged for the Fund to borrow sufficient cash to meet any unexpectedly high level of withdrawals without having to sell properties disadvantageously. The cost of this facility is paid for out of the Fund. The Company overwrites, reserves the right in the interests of policyholders to postpone repayments to them for up to six months in the unlikely event that this should ever prove necessary.

Charges. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offer price of units. There is also an annual charge of ½% of the value of your holding. The costs of management, valuation and other expenses of the Fund (including those of buying and selling properties) are borne by the Fund.

Detailed Information. An annual report on the Fund and its property holdings will be sent out in July each year, beginning July 1972, to all policyholders.

Price of Units. The price of units will be 102.2p each until 5 p.m. on 15th December, 1971. After that units will be credited at the prevailing offer price.

Save and Prosper Property Fund

PROPOSAL FOR A Save and Prosper Property Fund Policy.

To: Save and Prosper Insurance Limited, 4 Great St. Helena, London EC3P 3EP Telephone 01-554 8888 Telex 21942

1. I wish to invest £2,000 in a Save and Prosper Property Fund Policy and I enclose my cheque for this amount (not less than £200 and in multiples of £25), payable to Save and Prosper Insurance Limited.

2. Name of Proposer (in full) Mr/Ms/Miss First name(s) Surname

3. Address Town County Postal Code

4. Date of Birth Name and Address of your usual doctor

5. Do you want the Income Facility? (Minimum Outlay £1,000) YES OR NO If Yes, please indicate the percentage annual net rate of payment: 4% 6% 8% (Tick as appropriate)

6. Declaration to be completed by proposer. I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that I am in good health and that I am not suffering from any disease which might affect my eligibility for life insurance. I declare that the information given in this proposal is true and correct and that I am not making any statement which is false or misleading. I declare that I am not making any statement which is false or misleading. I declare that I am not making any statement which is false or misleading.

7. Signature Date

8. I am interested in regular monthly saving through the Save and Prosper Property Fund. Please send me details of the Save-Insure-and-Prosper Plan. I understand this does not commit me in any way.

NAME ADDRESS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

2011/08X

SAVE AND PROSPER GROUP

10/11/71

Family finance

House prices have been rising so fast this year that a house bought for £7,000 18 months ago is probably worth £7,750 now. William Nursaw looks at what the small man could have gained since the war just by moving house, and explains the way that most people obtain mortgages. The article below is from his book "Investment for All" to be published early next month by Gee and Co. At right, Tom Tickell describes a new type of mortgage that the banks have introduced recently.

Anatomy of the four houses of man

ANY OWNER/OCCUPIER of a house who has changed his house once or more during the past twenty years will know at once how property values have gone up and up. It is common knowledge that since 1939 a semi-detached house with garage has appreciated some six to eight times in value.

The majority of people are now convinced of the wisdom of buying rather than renting a house and building societies and others, including the insurance companies, are very ready to assist. In these days of inflation buying is a pushover—you raise cash by mortgage and buy an asset which appreciates in real terms with inflation. There have been many short periods in history when it has been better to have cash than a house—when a forced sale would have resulted in the seller getting substantially less than he paid, but the majority of owner-occupiers have been able to sit through these periods and the upward swing of prices has eventually resumed.

Over the past twenty years some owner-occupiers have deliberately rung the changes to very good effect. Others who have had to move more than once for business reasons have, without conscious effort, found themselves doing equally well. Let us take four house changes. The first, a house bought, including expenses, for £1,000 in 1950 with a mortgage of £800, the purchaser putting up £200 himself which he had some difficulty in scraping together. He sold five years later, realising £1,500 after expenses, and he had paid £100 off his mortgage.

He has thus after expenses created £800 cash including the £200 he put up. He pays £1,750 after expenses for his next house and borrows 80 per cent, namely £1,400. He can easily put down £380 of the £1,400 surplus he has created leaving £450. In five years he sells his house for £3,000. Net repayments of the mortgage amounts to £200, so this time he has a surplus of £1,500 plus the £450, a total of £1,950.

He buys his third house for £4,000, again borrows 80 per cent (£3,200), and puts down £800 leaving £1,450. This house he sells for £6,000 net—a surplus of £2,800. Allowing for loan repayments of £300 and the £1,450 he has in cash, he has a total of £4,550, out of which to put down 20 per cent (£1,500), to purchase his dream house which costs him £7,500 with expenses.

He borrows 80 per cent (£6,000), so having put up £1,500 he has cash-in-hand of £1,050. His various salary increases and promotion rises take care of the annual repayments of interest and capital. He has created a total surplus of £3,050, and has invested £1,500 towards the cost of his £7,500 house.

This house, in which he still lives, has already appreciated to £10,000. When he started he only had £200 to put down towards his £1,000 house. He has become convinced that investment in property works wonders and asks himself whether he should not become a property investor by buying another house—one perhaps by the seaside. What is wrong, he thinks, with owning a number of houses?

Provided you keep to the modest rules laid down by the building society there is no difficulty in getting a mortgage on house for your own occupation. It is not so easy to get two mortgages unless you have a

IN THE past month three of the big four clearing banks have come up with schemes designed to help at least some of their customers buy their own homes. It is only the Midland which has not announced a specific mortgage plan. But its medium-term loans lasting from three to 10 years are certainly available for mortgages.

The Midland charges between 10 to 10½ per cent, which is very marginally higher than the rate that Lloyds, Barclays and National Westminster demand, but it is just as much in the market as they are.

The new loans are no threat to the building societies. The banks are lending for up to 10 years, whereas building society mortgages are for 20-25—and the pressure is for extending them further. At the same time, before the banks will start lending, you will probably have to be earning £5,000 or more and perhaps have some capital as well.

All the stress is on flexibility, but the loans are really a form of bridging finance. After all the banks expect most of the borrowing to be in the £3,000 to £5,000 range, and it seems unlikely that the man on the

verge of surtax is likely to be satisfied with a house costing £7,500.

There are no rules limiting the bank's loan to a fixed proportion of the cost of the house, but they may often lend perhaps 50 or 60 per cent of the cost—leaving the borrower to provide the rest on his own.

Interest only

But it could go higher, particularly if there is a fixed sum coming your way in the near future. A with-profits endowment policy, due to mature in three or four years, is ideal. National Westminster may let you just pay the interest on your loan until your next egg appears, although Barclays is much less enthusiastic about the idea.

Someone facing retirement who was free to shift an annual company pension into a lump sum when he left, or a man in the forces who could expect a gratuity at the end of his service

are other good home loan candidates.

The interest you have to pay will vary as the loan continues, though movements will not depend on the Bank rate—as they did until two months ago. Since the Government announced that the banks were free to compete—and the cartel was to go—the base rate system has come in.

All the banks' borrowing and lending rates are determined by the base rate which each is free to decide. The base rates can vary according to how interest rates move elsewhere, which gives much more flexibility than in the past.

Three of the big four have a 5 per cent base rate, though Barclays is the odd man out with 4½ per cent.

It is also Barclays that offers the best interest rate. The customers who borrow from them can do so at 3 to 3½ per cent above their base rate, which amounts to between 8

and 8½ per cent. Westminster will lend at between 8 and 9, and Lloyds offer loans at between 8 and 10 per cent. Finally there is the Midland with medium term facilities at between 10 and 10½ per cent. These are true rates in all cases.

But once again flexibility is the key word—and if you can put a good case to your bank manager, you might get away for less—though of course you could be asked to pay more.

How much you borrow, what your credit worthiness is like and how long you want the loan to run are the big factors in determining the terms.

The tax concessions which apply to an owner occupier with a mortgage makes the rates more attractive—particularly as they apply to surtax as well as income tax payers. You get tax relief on the interest which you pay to the bank.

But there is a catch as usual. If you are paying your interest

out of earned—and not unearned—income, the tax office will deduct the money from the 2/9ths earned income relief that everyone is given before they start paying tax. The justification is that if they did not you would get relief twice over.

Close scrutiny

For someone borrowing a loan at 9 per cent—and repaying it out of his earned income entirely—the concession means that your real rate of interest on a bank loan is 6.3 per cent. But the man on the first rung of surtax the charge comes out to 8.3 per cent.

The banks take plenty of care to ensure that the money they lend actually goes on buying a house and not on a new car.

On a contract of this kind the money would probably come to you via a solicitor who would act as trustee. After all banks' personal loans cost 13 or 13½ per cent in real terms, so that

if you want a car, you pay more—and that is that.

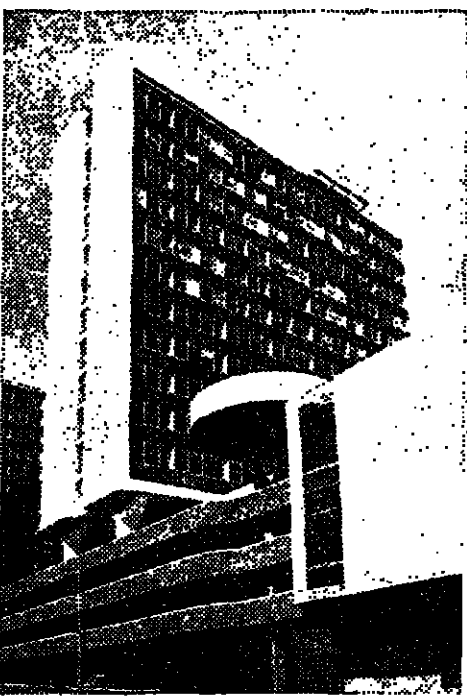
The Inland Revenue is just as keen to ensure that you do not get your concession without a house.

The banks' home loans are a return to old business for they were certainly available until the middle sixties. Admittedly there were restrictions then which limited credit to the private customer. But it was the introduction of bank ceilings when banks were only allowed to lend very fractionally more—and sometimes less—than they had in the previous year that blocked the bank mortgages completely.

Private customers were last on a very long list of priorities, following exports, imports, investment, and industrial decision to abandon the scheme—and the fact that the banks were flush with funds—that ensured bank home loans came back with such a bang.

They are certainly an attractive proposition—but you need plenty of money before you can afford to save money by repaying on a short term—and not pushing out your instalments over a long one.

Only the £72,000,000 Abbey Property Bond Fund could give you a stake in properties like these.



Arundel Towers, Southampton.



40-50 Bedford Square W.C.1.



Stone House & Staple Hall, London E.C.2.

The spectacular growth of the Abbey Property Bond Fund is one of the biggest financial success stories in recent times. Starting from scratch four years ago, the fund has grown to a record £72,000,000 with 36,000 bondholders. (In the last 2 months alone, investors sent in cheques totalling over £8,000,000.)

With this kind of money behind us we can operate on a much larger scale than the other Property Bond funds. For example, it allows us to buy giant multi-million pound properties at the most favourable terms (as illustrated by the three shown here which are valued at over £14,000,000). Which means that we're able to get the best deals on the best properties.

Another point: as the fund has continued to grow, we've continued to improve the bonds. For instance, just recently we reduced our deduction for Capital Gains Tax, improved withdrawal facilities and introduced a unique conversion option, as well as making a number of other changes detailed later in this advertisement.

Security

The Abbey Property Bond Fund is the biggest and most successful in Britain. But we have a lot more behind us than just our own individual assets. Abbey Life itself is one of the country's best known Life Assurance companies with assets exceeding £140 million. So you're in safe hands.

Performance

One of the most attractive features of the Fund. Since its inception in 1967, the bonds have continued to appreciate. Indeed, over the last 18 months the growth has been dynamic. In the last year alone, from November '70 to November '71, the offer price of Abbey Property Bonds increased in value by a handsome 11.9% (including the re-invested rental income net of tax). Paying tax at the standard rate you would have needed a gross income of 17.3% on your money to achieve the same result.

Built-in Life Assurance

As long as you hold Abbey Property Bonds your life is assured automatically, at no extra cost. As part of the new improvements, life cover will increase by 3% p.a. compounded from the policy anniversary following your 65th birthday.

In the event of your death the amount payable to your family will be either the current value of your bonds or the amount shown on the life cover table on the application form (which increases as described above)—whichever is the greater. Naturally, if you've withdrawn money from the Fund the amount of life cover will be correspondingly less.

Conversion Option

This is a new feature unique to Abbey Property Bonds. You may at any time elect to convert the units of your property bond into Abbey Equity Units or Abbey Selective Units, at a cost of only 1% of the value of your units. (Available if your bond is worth at least £500.)

6% p.a. Tax Free

Provided you make a single investment of not less than £1,000 you may, if you wish, withdraw up to 6% of the value of your bond each year—entirely free from Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax. The withdrawal scheme also incorporates a new feature. If you invest not less than £2,000, £4,000 or £12,000 you may now elect to have your withdrawals paid half-yearly, quarterly or monthly respectively. Of course, property values can fall as well as rise but provided that the annual total withdrawal does not exceed 6%, and that total annual appreciation is not less than 6½%, your bond would retain its original value (calculated at the offer price of the Units).

Tax Benefits

With Abbey Property Bonds you have no personal liability to Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax either while you hold them or when you cash them. The Company is liable to income tax on the rental income at the special Life Assurance Company rate—currently 37.5%.

The Company makes a deduction based upon the capital growth element of any profit on cashing-in units, in order to cover its own Capital Gains Tax liabilities. This deduction used to be made at 20% (which is ½ the full rate of tax) but in present circumstances the deduction will be made at 15%, which is only ¾ of the full rate—an entirely new feature. Furthermore the deduction is only made when you cash in your bonds so that the Fund accumulates free of Capital Gains Tax, a great advantage to bondholders.

Surtax payers are liable to surtax (or higher rate tax after 1973) when they cash in or on death, depending on their surtax situation at the time of cashing in. There are a number of provisions which enable a surtax payer to reduce, and possibly eliminate, the liability. If you are a very high surtax payer you should contact Abbey Life for precise details.

Investment Policy

The Managers of the Abbey Property Bond Fund are directed by the Investment Committee of Abbey Life to invest in top industrial and commercial properties with really sound tenants. To name but a few: National Westminster Bank, Esso Chemicals, The Post Office, W. H. Smith, American Express, IPC and Boots.

The Fund also buys sites and constructs its own buildings in conjunction with approved developers. Naturally, this is only undertaken with letting of the completed properties guaranteed in advance. Up to 25% of the Fund can be applied in this way.

Regular Valuations

The Fund Managers carry out a valuation of the Fund's properties once a month. These valuations are independently audited by Richard Ellis & Son, Chartered Surveyors.

To make it simpler for new Bondholders, property bond units will be of the accumulator type where income is automatically re-invested and expressed as an increase in the unit value.

Those who purchased their bonds prior to October 1st will continue to receive their rental income in the form of additional units.

Prices for both types of units are published daily in leading national newspapers.

Low Charges

To allow for life cover and management expenses Abbey Life charges 5% plus a small rounding-off price adjustment, which is included in the offer price of the new accumulator units. After that, charges total only one-half per cent a year. All expenses of managing, maintaining and valuing the properties, as well as the cost of buying and selling the Fund's investments, are met by the Fund itself.

Cashing in Your Bonds

You can cash in your Bonds at any time and receive the full bid value of the Units, calculated at the valuation following receipt of your request, subject only to any adjustment for Capital Gains Tax as described earlier. The Company maintains adequate liquid resources, similar to that of building societies, so in normal circumstances there should be no delay in cashing in.

However, in exceptional circumstances,

the Company retains the right to defer payment or implement the conversion option for up to six months, pending realisation of properties.

Guarantee

Now, when you reach age 65, the cash-in value of your policy is guaranteed if you have held the policy for 20 years or more. The minimum cash-in value of your bond would then be the same as the life cover (which increases by 3% p.a. compounded after your 65th birthday) illustrated in the coupon below.

Disclosure of Information

As a Bondholder, you'll receive our Annual Report with full details of the entire Portfolio.

This includes photographs of the major properties and full financial information to let you see exactly how your money is invested. All new Bondholders receive a current Annual Report.

Fill in and post the application form together with your cheque. Upon acceptance of your application, you will receive your bonds showing the number of accumulator units allocated to you.

Abbey Property Bonds

To: ABBEY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, Abbey Life House, 1-3 St. Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AR. Telephone: 01-248 9111

I wish to invest £_____ in Abbey Property Bonds (any amount from £100) and I enclose a cheque for this amount payable to Abbey Life Assurance Company Limited.

Surname (Mr./Mrs./Miss) _____

Full First Names _____

Address _____

Occupation _____ Date of Birth _____

Are you in good physical and mental health and free from the effects of any previous illness or accident? _____ If not please give details.

Do you already hold Abbey Property Bonds or Abbey Equity Bonds or another Abbey Life Policy? _____

annual (minimum investment £1000) quarterly (minimum investment £2000) half-yearly (minimum investment £2000) monthly (minimum investment £1200)

Send in your application and cheque now to get the benefit of the new Accumulator Units allocated at the current offer price of £1.03. Offer closes on Wednesday November 24th.

Signature _____

Date _____

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Abbey Property Bonds are single premium life assurance policies. The application and life cover come into force only upon acceptance by the Company, and the life cover may be restricted. Commission of 2% will be paid on the sum of £10,000, insurance strategy, Stockholder, Accumulator or Selective. This advertisement is based on advice received by the Company regarding present law and latest Revenue practice. No medical evidence will be required in normal cases.

Age next birthday	Life Cover per £1,000 invested
30 or less	£2,814
31	£2,732
32	£2,652
33	£2,575
34	£2,500
35	£2,427
36	£2,357
37	£2,288
38	£2,222
39	£2,157
40	£2,094
41	£2,033
42	£1,974
43	£1,918
44	£1,860
45	£1,806
46	£1,753
47	£1,702
48	£1,653
49	£1,605
50	£1,558
51	£1,512
52	£1,468
53	£1,428
54	£1,384
55	£1,344
56	£1,305
57	£1,267
58	£1,230
59	£1,194
60	£1,159
61	£1,126
62	£1,093
63	£1,061
64	£1,030
65-80	£1,000

Guaranteed Bonds

Issued by Life Assurance Companies are extremely popular today—and disappear like magic because they are over-subscribed so quickly. You can choose

INCOME of 7½% p.a. free of Income Tax then money back in full

or GROWTH of 8½% p.a. compound interest free of Capital Gains Tax

What better investments can you get—or have you got?

ab Acklam & Burton Limited Investment, Life Assurance & Pensions Consultants 175 Piccadilly, London W1V 0EX. 01-429 2473

Japan to urge new talks on tariff cuts

Japan will propose a new round of multi-national talks for across-the-board tariff cuts at the forthcoming ministerial council meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), State Minister Mr. Kimura said yesterday.

Mr. Kimura, director-general of the Economic Planning Agency, is leaving for Switzerland today to attend the GATT ministerial session in Geneva from November 24-26.

Mr Kimura said he will suggest that the council seek the consent of the GATT general meeting on opening such a round of talks. He also suggested creation of a special working party to prepare for the talks.

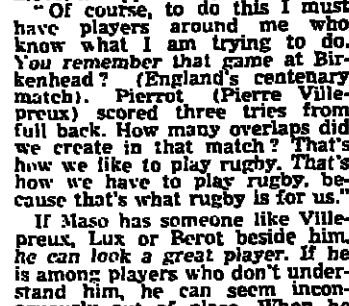
Informed sources said if the general GATT meeting approved the Japanese offer, it likely would be in the form of "a declaration of intent."

In his speech at the ministerial council meeting, the sources said Mr. Kimura will

The sources said Mr Kimura will declare that Japan will halt application of Japan's preferential tariff system privileges to the 22 nations unless they succeed invocation of Article 35

A chance to practise perfection?

play? "Frankly, no," he says. "I play the game I believe in. This, to me, is rugby. Back play is a creative art. I must be there to make a pass that will give the man outside me more freedom to move, an opportunity to run."



His present club is to a large extent dedicated to a tight for-

ward game and last week at Surrey's match in Toulouse his detractors in the crowd could be heard making derisive comments as Surrey occasionally were presented with a loose ball. Maso's inventiveness having proved too subtle for his less gifted colleagues. Clearly the citizens in the stand saw Maso as the arch-perpetrator of Art for Art's Sake. Has he any chance of getting back into the French team? The debate continues.

Unicorn '500' Trust invests mainly in smaller up-and-coming companies. £100 has already grown to £192 – in 5¾ years.

Some other details
This offer will close at 3.30 p.m., Monday, November 29th or earlier if the calculated daily price differs by more than 2½% from the fixed offer price.
Applications are not acknowledged but

After the close of this offer you can always buy shares at the daily offer price, quoted in most newspapers.

If you need any advice about this offer, consult your bank manager, stockbroker, solicitor or other professional adviser.

The buying price of your shares includes

an initial management charge of 5%. After that, a half-yearly charge of $\frac{1}{16}$ of 1% will be made on the value of the Trust fund. This will be deducted from the income of the Trust fund.

Income is distributed on April 15th and October 15th yearly. If you want income to

Selling is quick and easy. Shares can be sold back at the bid price ruling on receipt of your instructions. Just return your Share Certificate signed on the back and a cheque will be posted to you, normally within 7 days.

The Managers of Unicorn '500' Trust
are Barclays Unicorn Ltd., 252 Romford
Road, London E7 9JB. Tel: 01-534 8521.
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W. G. Bryan, TD, Sir Cuthbert Clegg, TD JP,
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Trustee: Royal Exchange Assurance.



Unicorn unit trust

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Choose your income

To: Barclays Unicorn Ltd.,
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB.

Name _____

Address _____ 36/562

5% to 10% TAX PAID

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If you can invest £1,000 the Barclays Unicorn Withdrawal Plan enables you to select the level of income you want – from 5% to 10% annually. This comes partly from the income earned and partly from capital disposal, but growth in the value of your shares may more than compensate for the latter. For details fill in this coupon.

To: Barclays Unicorn Ltd.,
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Address

36/562

from Eire, and Bob McEwen from Scotland to join Jeff Butterfield and Ian Beer in one of the early coaching con-

He added: "The RFU Guide to Coaches, of which 10,000 copies were printed, has been an invaluable publication not only for England but for the other home countries." He revealed that the England authorities have prepared a coaching guide for beginners which is now with the printers. He also said that he had been inundated with inquiries from all parts of the rugby world.

"Only this morning I received a letter from Solihull which expressed great interest in the new 9-a-side version of the game for primary schools where rugby football is not played. It hinted that following the success of mini-rugby in other Midland areas it was hoped to interest a dozen schools locally to take up the game, although the area is traditionally a red-hot soccer centre."

Williams expects that this will be one subject discussed at Sunday's conference. "I would like to stress that mini-rugby and other significant coaching developments are not reserved exclusively for Wales. They are aimed at doing something for the game wherever it is played. That other countries appreciate this is obvious from the tremendous interest being shown by coaches and club officials outside Wales."

[illegible][illegible]

RACING GUARDIAN

Wetherby runners No apparent dangers to Black Magic

COURSE POINTERS: A left-hand, oval track of a mile and a half round. The run-in is 130 yards. Pat McCarron, Paddy Broderick and Ron Barry are the leading jockeys, while Arthur Stephenson, Charlie (W.) Hall, Denis Smith and Neville Crump top the trainers' list. Stephenson added the first two in the 2.30 race, he runs Panache and Avie's Cheque today. Quagmire (3.0) won the 3.30 at the corresponding meeting last year.

TOTE DOUBLE: 2.0 & 3.5. **TREBLE:** 1.50, 2.30 & 3.50.

TV: 1.30, 2.0, 2.30 & 3.50.

EARLY-MORNING INSPECTION

1 CRIMPLE HANDICAP CHASE: 2m 50yds; winner £442 (6 runners).
1 033-114 Celtic Gold (B) (Major E. Cliff-McCulloch) W. A. Stephenson 6-11-10
2 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
3 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
4 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
5 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
6 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10

2 THORP ARCH JUVENILE HURDLE: 3-y-o; Div 1; 2m; winner £442 (17 runners).
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5 111yds: Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0

25 W. D. & W. WILLS PREMIER CHASE QUALIFIER: 2m 100yds; 111yds; Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
1 111yds: Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
2 111yds: Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
3 111yds: Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
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26 W. D. & W. WILLS PREMIER CHASE QUALIFIER: 2m 100yds; 111yds; Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
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31 W. D. & W. WILLS PREMIER CHASE QUALIFIER: 2m 100yds; 111yds; Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
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32 W. D. & W. WILLS PREMIER CHASE QUALIFIER: 2m 100yds; 111yds; Avie's Cheque (Miss A. W. W. Hall) W. A. Stephenson 6-12-0
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By RICHARD BAERLEIN

I see no reason why the Queen Mother's Black Magic should not repeat his record breaking Sandown performance in the Black and White Whisky Gold Cup at Ascot, this morning. The ground is still exceptionally fast and he is likely to take most of his rivals off their feet. I certainly think he should beat Jabeg, winner of both his races this season, at level weights.

Tom Dreaper invariably brings over a fancied runner for his valuable race and his charge, Black Magic, is already a winner in Ireland this season. He has quite a high reputation even if he is gruffed in the ante-post market. Sir Dick is the only five-year-old in the race. He put up a stylish performance when winning at Plumpton the other day but even in receipt of 13lb. it is asking a lot for him to beat the vastly more experienced Black Magic.

The ground will not be to the liking of either in the Black and White Whisky Gold Cup, but must, therefore, leave him out. The recent winner Barnard is also really not at home on this ground. He has been backed down to favouritism in the ante-post lists and in normal circumstances would have been my selection. Myone Royale probably requires another outing to tune him up but True Luck proved his fitness with a recent win. He had a fine record last season and as he has won on the firm I give him preference over Barnard.

The best bet of the day should be the Royal Scene in the Aurelius Hurdle which opens the programme. Toby Bulding is enjoying a fine run with his juvenile hinders and Royal Scene could be useful flat racer who has taken well to hurdling.

The North had a good day at Ascot yesterday when Even Keel came from Scotland and Front Bencher from Middleham in Yorkshire, to win their respective races. Even Keel on his best behaviour and in his best mood, made light of his task in the King and King Handicap Chase and established once and for all his ability to get three miles in beating The Laird and Mosebarb.

Border Mast could never stretch out on the fast ground and was pulled up. The Laird is coming back to form and is only waiting for a change of ground. Front Bencher won the race in good style and is possible for the Giltie Hurdle at Cheltenham. He was not favourite until Noble Neptune spread plate and had to be rebuffed in the race. Noble Neptune could never get on terms.

Midshire, with the benefit of a recent race, beat Killiney in the Donovon Crewery Memorial Hurdle by two lengths. Killiney was giving a lot of trouble but it was his first race and that is what beat him. He may prove even better than he was last season and is a mackerel when in the Berkshire Hurdle at Newbury.

Persian War ran well until two hurdles from home. The ground was not as fast as he had hoped but he still took the half mile out and held it until Killiney took over. On this form Persian War is a good bet to improve as a result of this race and if he can get the right ground in the near future may well be returning to the winning enclosure.

Disappointment of the race was Baitus, whose heavy backing ended in him taking Midshire's place as favourite. Baitus could only finish fourth.

George Todd, whose Manton stable has not been much in the news in the past year, had a welcome winner in Baitus. Todd, who took a victory in the Bingley Novices' Hurdle, Tironail appeared to find the course too sharp and it was all too late when he began to close with the leader.

Marica's Mark is another who appeared to come rather late on the scene to challenge Shell Streak. Though Marica's Mark failed to get up under the hinders, he will surely come in novice chasers.

There will be a field of 17 for the Aurelius Hurdle, which is run at Ascot, South Carolina, USA, today. Two European runners will be in the line-up—England's Clever Scot and Ireland's Clever Scot. These two runners, including Top Bid, who will be trying to win the race in succession, are the best of the best American chasers, including Top Bid, who will be trying to win the race in succession.

Robert A. Davies, who received a badly bruised neck and chest when Grandewell fell in the first hurdle, is expected to return to the Novices' Chase at Wincanton, hopes to resume riding early next week.

RICHARD BAERLEIN'S SELECTIONS — Map — ROYAL SCENE (1.0). Next best — BLACK MAGIC (2.30), both at Ascot.

Black and White day at Ascot

SELECTIONS
1 00 ROYAL SCENE (map) 2 30 Black Magic (nb)
1 30 Sable Tang 3 05 Chamos
2 00 True Luck 3 35 Pandolfi

COURSE POINTERS: There is a short, uphill run-in to the right-hand track, where Fred Winter, Bob Turner and Felix Wainwright head the trainers' table. The jockeys to note are Jeff King, David Meade and Terry Stables. Combe, Calo Mesquita (2.0) has 13lbs more to carry than when winning the corresponding event last season. Peter Easterby sends three runners from his Yorkshire stable—Eddy Abbey (2.0), Chamos (2.5) and Pandolfi (3.35). Sable Tang (1.30) missed last Saturday's Mackeson Handicap Chase to run in today's Mackeson Chase.

JACKPOT: NAME ALL SIX WINNERS (POOL—£2,124).
TOTE DOUBLE: 2.0 & 3.5. **TREBLE:** 1.30, 2.30, & 3.35. **GOING:** Good
SEC: 1.30, 2.0 & 2.30

1 AURELIUS HURDLE: 3-y-o; 2m; winner £7,421 (11 runners).
1 033-114 Celtic Gold (B) (Major E. Cliff-McCulloch) W. A. Stephenson 6-11-10
2 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
3 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
4 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
5 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10
6 2F-1113 Some Gal (B) (10th ex) (Mrs C. G. W. Hall) 6-11-10

2 MANIC HANDICAP CHASE: 2m; winner £388 (10 runners).
1 033-114 Celtic Gold (B) (Major E. Cliff-McCulloch) W. A. Stephenson 6-11-10
2 2F-111

Dewar Cup lawn tennis

Miss Goolagong slumps badly

By DAVID GRAY

Evonne Goolagong's wild fluctuations of form continued at the Royal Albert Hall last night. After playing superbly to defeat Francoise Durr in the first of the Palace Hotel, Torquay, last week, she slumped to lose by 0-6, 6-0, 6-1 to Julie Heldman (US) in the semi-final of the deciding tournament of the Dewar Cup.

It was the 20-year-old Wimbledon champion's fifth defeat in six weeks. Since her return to Europe last month, she has lost twice to Miss Heldman, once on a slippery court at Billingham and now in a match which must have seemed a disaster to her last night—and

once each to Virginia Wade, Rosemary Casals and to Miss Durr. Certainly, she is an inexperienced Wimbledon champion, but she ought not to have been outsmarted as easily as she was by the astute Miss Heldman last night.

The score is a testimony to the strangeness of the contest. There were times when the long slow exchanges bewildered the Albert Hall crowd, but never before could be heard from the champagne-drinkers in the boxes above the court. But always Miss Heldman stuck doggedly to her tactical plan.

A succession of high lobs to the backhand followed by blistering passing shots, won the American the first set. Then, after losing six games, Miss Goolagong's comfortable lead in the second set seemed as though she had slipped

easily back into confidence again, but after winning the first game of the third set, and reaching 4-0 on Miss Heldman's service, everything disintegrated again. Miss Heldman saved herself there and Miss Goolagong lost her service from 4-0 in the next game. The ascendancy changed dramatically. American shrewdness ruled the court and Miss Goolagong hit lazily and nervously and serving at an ineffective medium pace, did not win another game.

In the final this afternoon Miss Heldman will meet her old enemy Virginia Wade, who defeated her in a dramatic final at Billingham a month ago. Yesterday, Miss Wade gained a sharp piece of revenge defeating Miss Durr, the holder of the trophy, by 6-2, 6-2. Last year, the French player defeated her at the same stage of the competition.

The match, yesterday was the fifth meeting between Miss Wade and Miss Durr on the whisky circuit this year. Out of town the score was 10-0 in Edinburgh and Torquay went to France and Billingham and Abernethy in the British player. This last contest was the shortest of all. Miss Wade was so much in command, remembering the past, she must have been suspicious about the ease of her victory.

Almost her only moment of pleasure came when the umpire announced the first set to Miss Wade by six games to one. Miss Durr corrected him: "I don't have too many games, but when I have won two I like to have two." The second set was close for a time, but Miss Wade was moving better, and serving more accurately than she had done in the second half of the match at Torquay. Her volleying and smashing were much more effective and there was no fatal relaxation this time.

Bob Hewitt, the winner of the men's trophy in 1968, the first year of the whisky circuit, survived another volcanic semi-final. Unfazed by catarrh, sickness and penicillin injections, he beat John Paish, the most improved British player of the season, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2. The contest was full of clever rallying and hitting. Paish, with his soft touch and subtle sense of strategy, attacked at once and took the lead and for the hour Hewitt vainly tried to counter-attack.

Paish was passing him with neatly-placed shots, mostly from the backhand, and Hewitt, always the nervy frustrated perfectionist, started to fight against the line-judges as well as the British left-hander. In the sixth game he was sure that he had hit a backhand centre-line ace and on Paish's game-point for 5-2, he claimed that a British service, which he had hit into the net, was out. The umpire, Harry Collins from Godalming, asked the net-judge about the delivery, but what he saw was that the ball had not touched the net. Hewitt then shouted: "If you want him to win, I'll scratch now." The umpire bowed and the match was over. You get on with it.

Later Hewitt described the line-judging as a bloody job. Gradually, however, he began to control himself and the match and Paish became a little tense as the crisis loomed. The British player's moderately-paced service presented fewer problems for Paish than Hewitt's fast-paced service. Hewitt, however, eventually the South African broke service for the second set and then allowed the Irishman to win six points in the last four games of the final set. Sensibly, Paish has asked for a rest, one of the greatest post-war post-war servers, to help him to improve his service—the great weakness of his game—this winter.

In the final tonight Hewitt will face Mike Wilentz with Gerald Battick, Britain's leading independent player, whom he has beaten in three of the four finals of the last four years. As Battick, starting slowly, losing five of the first six games, beat Georges Goven, the French No. 1, 2-6, 6-1, 6-2, the match was a contest, full of neat exchanges and quicksilver charm. The mood will be different when he challenges the great post-war post-war server, to help him to improve his service—the great weakness of his game—this winter.

As a result of their defeat by Somerset, Devon have made six changes for their county championship match against Gloucestershire at Bristol next weekend. Including a change of captaincy, Bob Sladdon taking over from Andy Cole. The new team will be: (1) John Burt, (2) G. Wagon, (3) J. Burt, (4) J. Burt, (5) J. Burt, (6) J. Burt, (7) J. Burt, (8) J. Burt, (9) J. Burt, (10) J. Burt, (11) J. Burt, (12) J. Burt, (13) J. Burt, (14) J. Burt, (15) J. Burt, (16) J. Burt, (17) J. Burt, (18) J. Burt, (19) J. Burt, (20) J. Burt, (21) J. Burt, (22) J. Burt, (23) J. Burt, (24) J. Burt, (25) J. Burt, (26) J. Burt, (27) J. Burt, (28) J. Burt, (29) J. Burt, (30) J. Burt, (31) J. Burt, (32) J. Burt, (33) J. Burt, (34) J. Burt, (35) J. Burt, (36) J. Burt, (37) J. Burt, (38) J. Burt, (39) J. Burt, (40) J. Burt, (41) J. Burt, (42) J. Burt, (43) J. Burt, (44) J. Burt, (45) J. Burt, (46) J. Burt, (47) J. Burt, (48) J. Burt, (49) J. Burt, (50) J. Burt, (51) J. Burt, (52) J. Burt, (53) J. Burt, (54) J. 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Rebel unions on TUC carpet

By JOHN TORODE, Labour Correspondent

The revolt against the TUC's campaign of total opposition to the Industrial Relations Act gathered force yesterday. The two most significant unions which are out of step with TUC policy last night firmly rejected an olive branch from the TUC "Inner Cabinet" — the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

The TUC leaders must now decide whether they have the will, and the power to discipline the rebel unions. They are the 110,000-member Confederation of Health Service Employees and the 95,000 member National Union of Bank Employees. Both were called for "trial" before the committee yesterday to explain their deliberate defiance of TUC instructions to refuse to register under the new Act.

The TUC leaders came up with a face-saving formula for the rebels. At separate meetings they asked the two unions whether they would call emergency conferences to reverse their policy and switch to supporting the TUC line.

But the formula was turned down flat. NUBEE told the TUC that, if its members felt they were coming under TUC pressure, it would merely reaffirm its opposition to TUC policy even more strongly.

Although the two meetings were said to be friendly and good tempered neither the TUC nor the rebels gave an inch. The next move lies with the TUC committee. The TUC General Council meets on Wednesday, and if the committee follows TUC policy strictly, it will recommend the suspension of both unions for refusing to fall into line. But efforts are still being made to avoid such a head-on clash.

Two die in tanker gassing

Two men died and nine others were treated for the effects of gas poisoning in an accident on board the tanker Ocean Bridge, undergoing repairs in drydock at Greenock yesterday.

The owners of the ship, Bibby Line of Liverpool, said they understood that the accident happened when the carbon dioxide fire extinguishing system was accidentally set off while about 20 men were working in the engine room.

The men who died were Mr James O'Neill, aged 39, of Kilmarnock, and Mr Ambrose Malloy, 41, of Churchill Drive, Bishopcleeve, Renfrewshire. Mr Malloy, married with two daughters, was manager in charge of part of the dry dock operation. Mr O'Neill was a cleaner.

In March, the 66,000-ton tanker was seriously damaged by fire after an explosion as she was on her way to help another British ship in difficulty off Cape Finisterre. The master, Captain Henry Pyle, aged 39, died after the blast.

Lone sailor rescued after 9 days adrift

John Davies, aged 26, a former Royal Marine, of Plymouth, who had been almost given up for dead was found alive yesterday after nine days adrift at sea in an inflatable rubber dinghy.

Mr Davies, of Pemrose Road, St Budeaux, launched the dinghy when his yacht Louise sank off the French coast in a sudden squall. His companion, an Australian, Mr John Farr Clark, aged 22, was picked up by a French trawler shortly after the yacht went down.

By this time Mr Davies had disappeared and a big sea and air search was mounted: it was called off after two days when no trace had been found of Mr Davies or the dinghy. He had no food and only five gallons of fresh water in the dinghy to

Big N. Sea gas and oil strike

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

A big oil strike has been made in the North Sea, 135 miles east of Aberdeen, by a consortium which includes the Gas Council.

It is too early to assess the full extent of the find, but comparisons are already being made with the Alaskan discovery which British Petroleum made in the "Forties" field 25 miles away.

Unofficial estimates of the potential of the "Forties" field rise almost weekly. It is now believed to be able to supply 15 to 20 per cent of Britain's current oil consumption. Taking BP, Gas Council-Amoco, and Shell discoveries together it looks as though the UK sector of North Sea will easily be able to yield half of Britain's current consumption, and probably a lot more when the pipelines are laid.

The Gas Council has a 31 per cent stake in the discovery which is shared with the American companies Amoco (31 per cent), Amerasia (23 per cent), and Texas Eastern (15 per cent). The find was made on block 22/18 six miles from where the consortium made a smaller find some two years ago.

Clean quality

The well indicated a flow rate of 4,000 barrels a day of oil, and two million cubic feet of gas. The quality of the oil is similar to that of the BP find, having a low content of sulphur, which is the biggest cause of pollution, and expensive to remove at the refinery stage.

Mr J. West, Amoco's UK exploration manager, said: "This one certainly looks commercially viable, but it is in very deep water and would be very expensive to develop. These are the same problems BP have."

The group said that the quality of the oil was good, and the flow rate from the second well indicated that production rate of more than 10,000 barrels a day was likely. There would be a smaller flow from the original well six miles away.

The rig which drilled the well, SEDCO 135F, was towed from New Zealand at a cost of £1 million. Conoco will be chartering it for the next two months and it will then return to the Amoco-Gas Council group.

Sir Alec makes little ground in Rhodesia

Continued from page one

Mr Frost, a farmer who supervises the milking of his cows before driving into the city to supervise the ruling party, is on record as favouring segregated swimming pools, buses, cinemas, and public parks.

This week's exercise by Sir Alec is regarded as having provided the British with the extreme political demands of all sides. If there is a settlement, then the "test of acceptability" will try to match these demands to the proposed Constitution. It is believed that the various positions outlined this week are subject to negotiation. African Nationalist sources told me that even the hard-line statement by Jailed ZANU leader the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, was written with possible concessions in mind.

Two prisoners at large

Two men escaped from Birmingham prison yesterday. They are Derek Black (24), serving four years for robbing, burglary, theft, and actual bodily harm, and John Leiper (28), serving 30 months for burglary.

Police said last night that the men may be in a white Morris 1000, registration ENP978, stolen from the area.

002 will save money

By our Air Correspondent

Mr Peter Masfield, chairman of the British Airports Authority, calculates that the cost to an airline of flying the Concorde supersonic jet from London to New York and back is likely to be about 10 per cent less than a similar flight by a subsonic aircraft.

He believes that "subject to careful scheduling, combined with skilled marketing methods, the Concorde will not only be attractive to traffic, but can also be made profitable in service alongside subsonic types."

Mr Masfield made this optimistic assessment in Washington yesterday, when he gave the Littlewood Memorial Lecture before an audience drawn from the American aviation industries and Government agencies.

He argued that "although the cost per available seat of Concorde is higher, the cost of the aircraft's journey is less than the 707's. To provide transport for an aircraft load of about 120 passengers across the Atlantic, Concorde offers potentially the cheaper ride."

Unexplosive film on the IRA shown to press

GRANADA yesterday allowed the press to see the film on the Provisional IRA which the Independent Television Authority banned.

The 30-minute film was made for "World in Action" and was to have been shown on November 1. But the IRA announced on October 28 — before the film had been seen, or even completed — that it would not be shown. The authority viewed the film this week and confirmed the ban. It cited section three (1) of the Television Act, which deals in general terms with public taste, public order, and impartiality. Granada has not been told of any specific objections.

The film, called "South of the Border," deals with last month's conference of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Republican movement, in Dublin. It has extensive sequences of Rory O'Bradeigh, president of Sinn Féin, and of Sean Mac Stiofain, who is usually described as the Provisionals' military chief of staff. Both were delivering, as was widely reported on television and in the press, an uncompromising call to arms, to a sympathetic audience of several hundreds.

This is balanced (half and half, in terms of time) with clips of Dr Garret Fitzgerald and Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, the two most forthright and articulate critics of the IRA on the front benches of the opposition parties in the Irish Republic. Dr Fitzgerald talks of the fascist nature of the Provisionals and the threat to institutions in both parts of Ireland; Dr Cruise O'Brien gives a warning (in a public debate) of the dangerous fascination of the gun and the disastrous consequences of allowing force to hold sway instead of democratic consent.

The film is something of a

test case in the debate over the reporting of the Ulster situation. I have talked to all the principal figures in the film and would say that it accurately and represents their views. And there is nothing in it which has not been said and shown on television in Britain (and the Republic) before — though perhaps not at such length.

But there are some major weaknesses. The film makes no attempt to answer the central question south of the border, that is, "How much support does the IRA have among the mass of the people?" Nor does it indicate how much support Dr Fitzgerald and Dr O'Brien have in their parties, nor how typical their views are of moderate opinion. It leaves the impression that

they and the Provisional IRA are equally matched and equally supported, that it is a straight fight between these two camps. Even without getting into questions such as the split (ignored in the film) between the Official and Provisional IRA, this is simply not the case.

There is also — and this must be in part what upset the ITA — no attempt to show the Dublin Government's attitude towards the IRA, though this can be inferred from some of the statements made. This is because Government Ministers and spokesmen will not appear on television pitted against the IRA. It leaves a big gap.

Mr Denis Forman, joint managing director of Granada, agreed yesterday

that the film would not be suitable for screening in Northern Ireland. It ought to be noted as well that it could certainly not now be shown in the Republic — although plenty of similar material has been shown on Irish television. But Mr Lynch's Government last month issued a directive under the Republic's Broadcasting Act forbidding material that could be calculated to promote the aims or activities of any organisation engaged in violence to achieve political ends. Its effect has been to wipe the IRA off the screens. It is the kind of vague directive which sends shivers down the backs of broadcasters who are given no clear guide as to how it should be interpreted.

The ITA decision, which makes no specific objections, also fails to make clear where the boundaries lie. "South of the Border" may not have been worth banning, and it has raised many more questions than it solves.

Alan Smith



'Sorry, old chap — can't slot you in!'

Woman shot in border gun battle

From DEREK BROWN, in Strabane

A woman from the Republic of Ireland was shot in the head during a cross-border gun battle between gunmen and British troops yesterday afternoon.

Miss Bried Carr, aged 24, was walking across a bridge marking the border at Lifford, near Strabane, about 15 miles from Londonderry, when gunmen on the southern side of the border opened fire at Royal Engineers building obstructions on the road. Troops of the 45 Medium Regiment Royal Artillery, who were covering the

engineers, returned fire. Miss Carr had crossed the border, and was behind the troops when she was shot in the head. The incident occurred about 3.30 p.m. Several shots had been fired across the border previously, but the troops had not returned the fire.

Miss Carr was taken to Strabane Hospital, and was later transferred to the Almaguin Hospital in Londonderry, where she underwent an operation. Her parents, who live in Kildrum,

Maudling sees Hill on reports

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

Lord Hill, chairman of the BBC, saw Mr Maudling yesterday to discuss coverage of Northern Ireland. He indicated afterwards that there had been no suggestion at the meeting of censorship, or of restricting reporters.

Lord Hill said after the 45-minute meeting: "The Home Secretary informed me of the character and intensity of some views expressed at the Home Affairs Committee of Conservative MPs last week. In reply I told him that I would write to him within the next few days setting out the BBC's viewpoint."

This meeting, and the one Mr Maudling is to have on Tuesday with Lord Aylesford, chairman of the Independent Television Authority, are the result of strong criticism by some Conservative backbenchers of television coverage. In particular, MPs have criticised what they regard as hostile and unfair interviewing of army officers, though the army itself has not publicly supported this complaint.

The BBC resents and denies charges of bias and unfair reporting, and Lord Hill is widely believed among broadcasters to be firm in his determination to resist outside pressures. Something of this can be seen in his remarkably strong reply last month to charges from Mr James Kilfedder, Ulster Unionist MP, that BBC reporters had been "sniping in the back."

Lord Hill replied then: "As a corporate citizen of the U.K. the BBC must tell the truth as far as our journalists can find it, to both sides in the divided community of Northern Ireland, and so the whole electorate of the United Kingdom, since that is where it is our final responsibility rests. It is a task which is beset with difficulties which are increased by the partisan attacks as your letter."

Press and television journalists are meeting at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London on Monday to discuss the threat of censorship in reporting Irish affairs.

The Federation of Broadcasting Unions last night criticised "Jack" cartoon in yesterday's London Evening Standard. It showed a television producer in Northern Ireland asking British troops, one of whom lies wounded, to expect them to fire again for the benefit of the cameras. Mr T. Rhys, secretary of the federation, said last night:

"BBC and ITV cameras are are themselves exposed, armed, to constant risk of death or injury in Northern Ireland. To suggest that they act as the cartoonist depicts them is a contemptible slur on men doing their best in the face of great difficulty and danger to ensure that the rest of the world knows what is going on."

The National Union of Journalists' chapel at BBC Television News, London, said: "We have asked the Press Council to consider a complaint against cartoon."

THE WEATHER

Cloudy after early sun

A trough of low pressure will move across W areas of the British Isles. Rain, perhaps preceded by some sleet or snow, will move from the W into N Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and W districts of England during the day. Eastern England will have sunny spells but will become cloudy later, perhaps with some rain late in the period. Temperatures will rise to near the seasonal normal in the W, but it will be rather cold elsewhere.

London: SE, E, NE and East S. England, E Anglia and E Midlands: Becoming cloudy with rain later, and becoming cloudy later, perhaps some rain in evening, and at times, drizzle. Max. 45°C, Min. 35°C.

W Midlands, NW and West S. England, W Midlands, W Wales, and W districts of England during the day. Eastern England will have sunny spells but will become cloudy later, perhaps with some rain late in the period. Temperatures will rise to near the seasonal normal in the W, but it will be rather cold elsewhere.

Mr Denis Healey told Bournemouth Fabians last night that the minimum required for a settlement which would be acceptable to Rhodesians as a whole would be the repeal of the 1969 Constitution and of the Land Tenure Act.

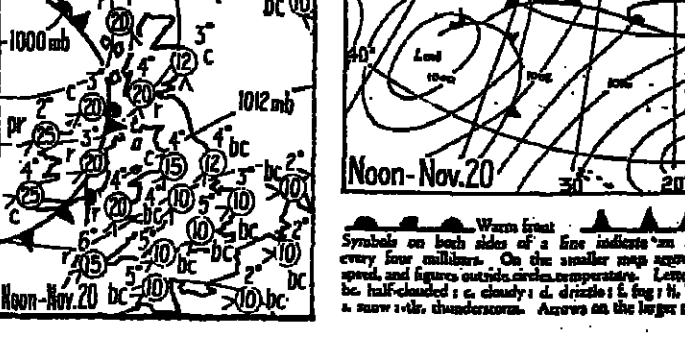
If Sir Alec could stand firm on these points he would repair the damage he had done to Britain's trade and influence in Africa by the South African arms fiasco.

"If he does not stand firm, the catastrophe he avoided by the Singapore conference will come about at last," Mr Healey said.

STOP PRESS

AMATEUR BOXING

Poland beat England by eight bouts to three in Warsaw.



AROUND BRITAIN

Report for the 24 hours of 6 p.m. yesterday:

Station	Sun. Rain	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.
Cardiff	0.2	53	41
Birmingham	0.2	53	41
London	0.2	53	41
Manchester	0.2	53	41
Edinburgh	0.2	53	41
Glasgow	0.2	53	41
Belfast	0.2	53	41
Sheffield	0.2	53	41
Nottingham	0.2	53	41
Leeds	0.2	53	41
Bradford	0.2	53	41
York	0.2	53	41
Lincoln	0.2	53	41
Nottingham	0.2	53	41
Leeds	0.2	53	41
Bradford	0.2	53	41
York	0.2	53	41
Lincoln	0.2	53	41

AROUND THE WORLD

London time reports

Alaska: Fair, 60-70. Pacific: Fair, 60-70. Atlantic: Fair, 60-70. Indian: Fair, 60-70. Africa: Fair, 60-70. Asia: Fair, 60-70. Australia: Fair, 60-70. New Zealand: Fair, 60-70.

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192 Gray's Inn London WC1 Editorial and Advertising: 01-837-7229 Telex: 22895 164 Deansgate, Manchester M60 2RR Editorial and Advertising: 061-832-7229 Telex: 687871

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